

QST



FOUNDATION FOR
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AMATEUR RADIO

The Official Journal of the Foundation For Amateur Radio, Inc.

DECEMBER 1997



Rules and Regs • ARRL Report • VE Exams Schedule
Public Service Report • DX Column • Regional Hamfests
Club Reports • Shack Sales • Much More!



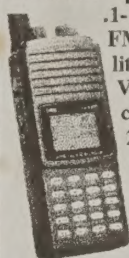
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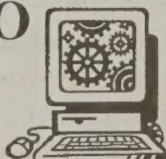
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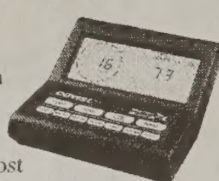


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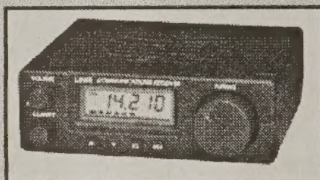
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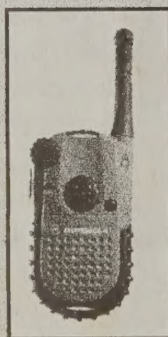
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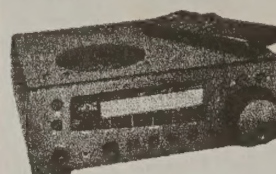


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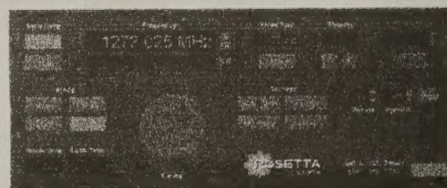
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Regional Hamfests and Other Events

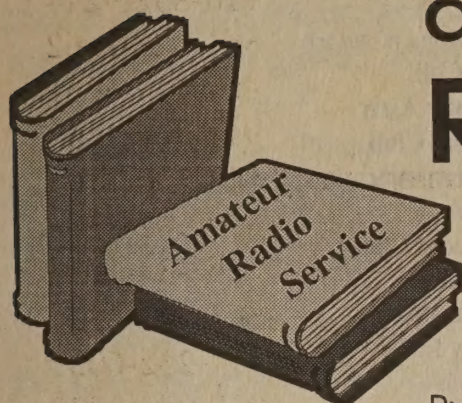
December 6	76 Group, Greensboro ARA, & Guilford AS, Greensboro, NC	910-852-9244
December 13	Union County ARC, Union, SC	864-427-1462
January 10	Skyline ARC, Marathon, NY	607-849-6751
January 18	Metro 70cm Network, Yonkers, NY	914-969-1053
January 18	Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society, Richmond, VA	804-330-3165
January 25	Maryland Mobileers ARC, Odenton, MD	410-987-2384
January 31	Lockport ARA, Lockport, NY (Auction)	716-434-1533
February 7	Charleston ARS, North Charleston, SC	803-747-2324
February 14	Harrisburg RAC, Oberlin, PA	717-232-6087
February 21	Briarpatch & Foothills ARCs, Elkin, NC	910-957-3820
February 22	Long Island Mobile ARC, Freeport, NY	516-520-9311
February 22	South Hills ARC, Pittsburgh, PA	412-341-1043
February 22	Plateau ARA, Fayetteville, WV	304-469-3292
March 7	Split Rock ARA, Parsippany, NJ	973-347-3195
March 7-8	Mecklenburg ARS, Charlotte, NC	704-948-7373
March 14	Highlands County ARC, Sebring, FL	941-382-9560
March 15	Charleston Area Hamfest & Computer Show, Charleston, WV	304-768-1143
March 20-22	Playground ARC, Fort Walton Beach, FL	850-314-3337
March 21	Martin County ARA, Stuart, FL	561-288-7100
March 21	Kennehoochee ARC, Marietta, GA	770-517-0073
March 22	Westchester Emergency Communications Assn., Yonkers, NJ	914-741-6606
March 22	Down East Hamfest Association, Kinston, NC	919-524-5724
March 28-29	Maryland State Convention, Timonium, MD	410-HAM-FEST
April 3-4	Southeastern VHF Conference, Atlanta, GA	404-875-9450
April 4	Catawba Valley Hamfest & Computer Fair, Morganton, NC	704-433-6205
April 4	Appalachian AR Group, Fredericksburg, PA	717-566-2606
April 5	North Carolina State Convention, Raleigh, NC	919-266-9335
April 25	Cherryville Repeater Assn., Harmony Twp., NJ	908-788-2644
April 25	Columbia-Montour ARC, Bloomsburg, PA	717-752-6851
May 3	Antietam Radio Assn., Hagerstown, MD	304-728-7769
May 3	Metro 70cm Network, Yonkers, NJ	914-969-1053
May 3	Warminster ARC, Wrightstown (Bucks County), PA	215-674-5218



(Photo by Al Rabassa, NW2M)

On The Cover

Jay Lubliner-KA3ZMW (l) and Todd Brooks-N3QFZ (r) prepare for a serious ARRL VHF-UHF contest trip. Omni antennas for active roving are strung while long boomers are secured for stationary operation. The longest boomer was 25 feet used on 432MHz. They worked KD1DU on 432 while 65' underwater in the tunnel of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge at 55 MPH using the boomer! Talk about waveguide... Covering over 1000 miles on 6 meters thru 902 yielded a very impressive score! Oh yes, this was their first outing!



Rules and Regs

By Jack Kelleher
W4ZC

STATE DEPARTMENT APPLIES FOR US CEPT PARTICIPATION (TNX ARRL LTR V16 #40)

The State Department has applied for US participation in the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) Amateur Radio licensing system. The move, September 22, could eventually make it easier for US hams to operate temporarily in European countries that participate in CEPT. Holders of a CEPT license could operate in CEPT-participating countries without having to apply for a reciprocal license.

"No doubt there will be some give and take between the European Radiocommunications Office (ERO) and the Department of State over the details before the US is accepted as a participant, but an important milestone has been reached," said ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ. The application consists of a four-page letter with voluminous attachments. Last year, the FCC had asked the State Department to apply for participation in the CEPT Agreement as a non-CEPT country.

The action follows in the wake of an earlier suggestion by the ARRL to the FCC that the US take advantage of the CEPT Recommendation T/R 61-01 arrangements and issue a CEPT license that would be recognized by other participating administrations and valid for visits.

Last fall, the FCC proposed amending the Amateur Radio rules to make it easier for hams holding a CEPT license or an International Amateur Radio Permit (IARP) to operate during short visits to the US.

FCC UPDATES SPECIAL EVENT "FACT SHEET" (Tnx ARRL Ltr V16 #40)

The FCC has revised Fact Sheet 206E, which deals with the Amateur Special Event Call Sign System and has added the W4VEC VEC of High Point, North Carolina, to the list of approved Special Event Call Sign Coordinators. Here's the revised FCC Fact Sheet:

When transmitting in conjunction with an event of special significance, an amateur station "special event station" may transmit the identification announcement using a special event call sign in accordance with the procedures detailed below. Substituting a special event call sign for its assigned call sign may help a special event station call attention on-air to its participation in the special event and to the unique opportunity for the amateur service community to exchange greetings with the station. Use of these provisions, however, must not detract from the station making the source of its transmissions known to those receiving them. The special event station must also transmit its assigned call sign at least once per hour during such operation [emphasis added].

Special event call signs. A block of 750 call signs is available for use in the special event call sign system. The format of each call sign (1x1) consists of a single letter prefix K, N or W, followed by a single digit numeral 0 through 9, followed by a single letter A through W or Y or Z (X is not available to amateur stations). The station license grantee must obtain coordination for the use of a special event call sign through one of the following special event call sign coordinators. These coordinators maintain and disseminate worldwide a common database for the day-to-day usage of

Continued on page 7



MEMBER CLUBS

Adams County Amateur Radio Society
Alexandria Radio Club
Amateur Radio Research and Develop. Corp.
AMSAT - Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation
Anne Arundel Radio Club

Antietam Radio Association, Inc.
ARINC Amateur Radio Club
Arlington Amateur Radio Club
Baltimore Amateur Radio Club
Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society
Capital City Amateur Radio Society
Capital Hill Amateur Radio Society
Carroll County Amateur Radio Club
Central Maryland Amateur Radio Club
Chaverim of the Greater Washington Area
Columbia Amateur Radio Association
Culpeper Amateur Radio Association
D-MARC - Digital Mid-Atlantic Radio Council
Department of State Amateur Radio Club

Dulles Amateur Radio Group
Explorer Post #80- Amateur Radio
Fauquier Amateur Radio Association
Federal City REACT Amateur Radio Club
Frederick Amateur Radio Club
Frederick Amateur Repeater Group
Goddard Amateur Radio Club
Green Mountain Repeater Association
Hanover Area Hamming Association
Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club
IBM Amateur Radio Club
Johns Hopkins University APL ARC
KB3BOI Repeater Group, Inc.
Kent Island Amateur Radio Club
Laurel Amateur Radio Club
Leisure World Amateur Radio Club
Loudoun Amateur Radio Group
MD/DC MARS (Navy Marine) Association
MADRAS
Maryland Emergency Phone Net
Maryland FM Association
Maryland Mobileers Amateur Radio Club
Mercury Amateur Radio Assn., NE Area

Metropolitan Communications Network
Metrovision Amateur TV Club
Mid-Atlantic DX & Repeater Assn.
Montgomery Amateur Radio Club
Montgomery Auxiliary Communications Service
Moose Amateur Radio Club
Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club
National Capitol ARES Council
National Capitol DX Association
Naval Research Laboratory Radio Club
NOAA Amateur Radio Club
North Point FM Association
Northern Virginia FM Association
Northern Virginia Radio Club
Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club
Opequon Radio Society
Pentagon Amateur Radio Club
Potomac Area VHF Society
Potomac Valley Radio Club
Prince George's Wireless Association, Inc.
Prince George's County ARES/RACES
Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc.

Baltimore Chapter #20
Del-Mar-VA Chapter #150
Shenandoah Valley Chapter #137
Vic Clark Chapter #91
Washington Chapter #23

Rock Creek Amateur Radio Association
St. Mary's County Amateur Radio Association
Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club
Southern Maryland Amateur Radio Club
Southern Patuxent Amateur Radio Club
Stafford Amateur Radio Assn.
Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club
Summit Amateur Radio Association
Tri-County Amateur Radio Club
T-MARC, Middle Atlantic Repeater Council
Vienna Wireless Society
Voice of America Amateur Radio Club
Washington Adventist Amateur Radio Assn.
Washington Area Young Ladies ARC
Woodbridge Wireless, Inc.

NEXT FOUNDATION MEETING

The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc. meets at 8: p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month. **Visitors are always welcome!** The next meeting will be held on December 10th in Takoma Park, Maryland at Columbia Union College, HMS Richards Bldg., Flower Avenue (Take beltway exit 30, South on Colesville Road to Franklin Avenue, left on Franklin to Flower, right on Flower to Carroll Ave., left on Carroll to Greenwood Ave., left on Greenwood to 2nd building on left.

**Talk-in on
146.55**

the one-by-one format call signs (for example K1A). Upon completing the coordination process, the special event station may substitute the 1x1 format call sign for its assigned call sign during the period of the special event.

Coordinators: These volunteer entities have been certified as special event call sign coordinators.

* ARRL/VEC, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111-1494; tel 860-594-0300, fax 860-594-0339, e-mail vec@arrl.org.

* The W5YI Group Inc, 2000 E Randol Mill Rd, Suite 608-A, Arlington, TX 76011, tel 817-461-6443, fax 817-548-9594, e-mail fmaia@internetMCI.com.

* Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society/VEC Inc, 5833 Clinton Hwy, Suite 203, Knoxville, TN 37912-2500; tel 423-688-7771, e-mail WCARS@KORRnet.org.

* Laurel Amateur Radio Club Inc, Box 3039, Laurel, MD 20709-3039, tel 301-317-7819, e-mail rbusch@erols.com.

* W4VEC/VEC, 3504 Stonehurst Pl, High Point, NC 27265, tel 919-841-7576, e-mail W4VEC@aol.com.

Indicators: In addition to the special event call sign system, any amateur station, including a special event station, may include with its assigned call sign one or more indicators (example W1AW/national convention). Each indicator must be separated from the assigned call sign by a slant (/) or by any suitable word that denotes the slant mark ("portable," "stroke," etc.). If the indicator is self-assigned, it may be included before, after, or both before and after, the assigned call sign (example KP2/W1AW/contest). No self-assigned indicator may conflict with any other indicator specified by the FCC Rules (such as AA, AG, AE or KT) or with any prefix assigned to another country (such as DL, F, G or VE) [emphasis added].

Questions concerning 1x1 call signs and the common database should be directed to the special event call sign coordinators. For information concerning Fact Sheet 206E, contact John B. Johnston, e-mail jjohnsto@fcc.gov; tel 202-418-0680.—FCC

WORLD RADIOCOMMUNICATION CONFERENCE 97 OPENS IN GENEVA

Four items of prime interest to Amateur Radio are on the agenda of the World Radiocommunication Conference 97 (WRC-97). ARRL Technical Relations Manager Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, is a member of the US delegation to the conference. Others attending include IARU representatives Larry Price, W4RA, Wojciech Nietyksza, SP5FM, and Michael Owen, VK3KI. Representing Canadian amateurs on his nation's delegation will be Jim Dean, VE3IQ, of Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC).

WRC-97 delegates will discuss the so-called "Little LEO" issue during the monthlong session. While the Little LEO industry's preliminary proposals to share 2 meters, 1-1/4 meters and 70 cm generated quite a stir in the amateur community last year, current US proposals do not include any plans for sharing of amateur frequencies.

Also of interest to hams is the specter of increased interference on some amateur UHF allocations from Earth Exploration Satellites (EES), used for mapping by synthetic aperture radars (SARs) that are expected to be mostly active in the Southern hemisphere. WRC-97 will be asked to consider allocating the band 430-440 MHz to EES and upgrading the status of EES at 1240-1300 MHz. Amateur radio delegates will make known the needs of our service.

Wind profiler radar systems operating near 50, 449 and 1000 MHz also bear watching because of the potential for interference to Amateur Radio. These systems are used by weather forecasters to

Continued next page

look at wind patterns in the higher atmosphere.

WRC-97 delegates also will set the agenda for WRC-99, where the potential exists to establish a worldwide 40-meter allocation. The current US concept calls for a "harmonized" band at 6900 to 7200 kHz that would be available to hams around the globe. This would mean hams would shift down by 100 kHz while broadcasters moved 100 kHz up the band. Yet to be determined is how fixed services would be handled in the realignment. The IARU is committed to the goal of a 300-kHz worldwide exclusive allocation for 40 meters. Right now, only 7000 to 7100 kHz is available in Regions 1 and 3, where broadcasters dominate the upper 200 kHz of the band.

WRC-97 is scheduled to conclude November 21 (TNX ARRL LTR V16 #41)

Ed: This was written at presstime, November 4. There may be interim reports, official or otherwise, during the Conference. We'll pass on anything authoritative that we see or hear.

FCC ISSUES NEW FORM 610—OLD VERSIONS OBSOLETE (From ARRL Ltr V16 #42)

The FCC announced this week that as of January 1, 1998, Amateur Radio applicants may only submit FCC Forms 610, 610 A and 610B that carry an edition date of September 1997. After the first of the new year, previous editions of Form 610 will not be accepted for filing by the FCC or by Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VECs). Amateurs may begin using the new Form 610s now.

The major change on the new form is a certification that says the applicant has "read and will comply with Section 97.13(c) of the Commission's Rules" regarding RF radiation safety and the amateur service section of OST/OET Bulletin No 65, Evaluating Compliance with FCC-Specified Guidelines for Human Exposure to Radio Frequency Electromagnetic Fields. But,

Amateur Radio Supplement B of Bulletin 65, which has additional information on how to conduct a routine RF safety evaluation and explains other aspects of RF safety, is still in the draft stages and not yet available to the ham radio community.

ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, says the League is concerned that the new Form 610 could be in the hands of hams before Amateur Radio Supplement B is complete. Sumner says it's essential that the FCC make Supplement B available in time for hams to complete their evaluations to meet the deadlines in the rules.

ARRL Lab Supervisor Ed Hare, W1RFL, who's been involved in reviewing the draft supplement, said he expects the FCC to release it sometime in November. The ARRL will release a book on the new RF safety regulations near the end of the year. "Above all, it is important that the required station evaluation be as easy as possible for hams," Hare said. "The FCC has pretty much met that goal. Additionally, most hams, by virtue of their power levels, will not need to do an evaluation at all."

Section 97.13(c) reads: Before causing or allowing an amateur station to transmit from any place where the operation of the station could cause human exposure to RF electromagnetic field levels in excess of those allowed under 1.1310 of this chapter, the licensee is required to take certain actions.

1. The licensee must perform the routine RF environmental evaluation prescribed by 1.1307(b) of this chapter, if the transmitter PEP exceeds the following limits: 160-40 meters, 500 W; 30 meters, 425 W (legal limit is 200 W—Ed); 20 meters, 225 W; 17 meters, 125 W; 15 meters, 100 W; 12 meters, 75 W; 10 meters, 50 W; VHF (all bands), 50 W; 70 cm, 70 W; 33 cm 150 W; 23 cm, 200 W, 13 cm 250 W, SHF/EHF (all bands) 250 W.

2. If the routine environmental evaluation indicates that the RF electromagnetic fields could exceed the limits contained in 1.1310 of this

chapter in accessible areas, the licensee must take action to prevent human exposure to such RF electromagnetic fields. Further information on evaluating compliance with these limits can be found in the FCC's OET Bulletin 65, Evaluating Compliance with FCC-Specified Guidelines for Human Exposure to Radio Frequency Electromagnetic Fields.

The new Forms 610 may be obtained from the FCC's Web site via the Internet at <http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html>, at <ftp://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms/> or by fax at 202-418-0177 (request index, or for Form 610 use form code 000610, for Form 610A use form code 006101, for Form 610B use form code 006102). The FCC Forms Distribution Center will accept FCC forms orders by calling 800-418-3676.

ARRL VEs and VE teams will be able to obtain a supply of the new Forms 610 in mid to late November—once the ARRL/VEC has had time to obtain a supply of the new forms.

Individual amateurs may obtain a copy of the new Form 610 by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) to: ARRL/VEC, 225 Main St, Newington CT 06111. Include 32 cents postage for each Form 610 requested (this is a four page form).

For general information, contact the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Rd, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245, or call the FCC's National Call Center at 888-225-5322 (CALL FCC).—FCC

MORE ON TIGHTENING THE CW WAIVER RULES (TNX AMATEUR RADIO NEWS 10/17/97)

The CW waiver system that has been in effect for seven years is not working. So says the ARRL. As we reported last week, the League filed a rules change request with the FCC to make it harder for those not qualified to obtain one. The League says that experience has shown that many applicants without severe handicaps have abused the process by obtaining a physicians' certificate. This, even

when a person's disability was an unrelated issue.

ARRL Vice President Steve Mendelsohn W2ML, recently told Hap Holly, KC9RP of RAIN about one extreme experience that graphically illustrates the problem. "I know of no individual who came in limping and had bad knees and felt that he just absolutely could not take a CW test; which lead me to wonder if he was planning on using his foot." Mendelsohn

The League says that at present, 8% of those applying through the ARRL-VEC have requested a medical exemption from the higher speed code requirement. It adds that other VEC's report similar experiences. The League cites a growing suspicion among hams of anyone who has upgraded by waiver. It says that this is unfair to those who require and deserve the exemption because they cannot be tested by the usual procedures.

The FCC rules require volunteer examiners to exercise broad latitude in administering CW exams to accommodate handicapped applicants. Measures include using a flashing light or vibrating surface for hearing-impaired applicants, pausing after sentences, phrases, words or characters, or even substituting a sending test for a receiving test.

Instead, the League observed in its filing, there is a tendency for applicants to seek exemption instead of accommodation. The League says that it believes the procedural changes it has requested will deter those who might abuse the process while still allowing exemptions to deserving applicants. So far, no one has opposed the ARRL's position.

INSIDE WIRING

And heres one that will affect everyone in the United States as we head toward completion of the information Superhighway. The FCC has adopted a Report and Order and Second Further N.P.R.M. amending inside wiring rules. This, to enhance competition in the video distribution marketplace and broaden consumer ability to install and maintain their own wiring. The second N.P.R.M., designated 97 dash 376, requests further comment

on several issues, including exclusive service contracts to maintain such wiring.

(FCC release quoted in Amateur Radio Newsletter))

ARRL TO CONTINUE PUSH FOR FEDERAL PREEMPTION

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Radio antennas. However, the FCC appears to have made no progress with regard to the petition, which asked the FCC to declare that localities must find the least restrictive means to deal with ham radio.

Among other things, the petition called on the Commission to amend Section 97.15(e) of the rules to say that any state or local antenna restrictions limiting ham radio antennas to heights below 70 feet would be "presumed unreasonable," unless the state or local authority could show its restrictions were necessary for health, safety or aesthetic reasons.

It was also announced at the Executive Committee meeting that the League will submit comments in Mass Media Bureau Docket 97-182 supporting a comprehensive antenna facilities siting policy, including amateur antenna structures.

...DAYTON DAYTON DAYTON DAYTON DAYTON...

The Foundation for Amateur Radio is soliciting interest in a charter flight to the Dayton Hamvention on May 16, 1998. The aircraft will leave Baltimore (BWI) at 5 AM fly direct to Dayton. Allowing you take in a full day at the Hamvention and leave for the return flight at 7 PM that evening.

Yes a full day at Dayton and home by evening. Ok, What's the cost you ask? If, and only if, we fill the plane full, (that is 150 people) the cost per person is approx. \$200.00 plus your Hamvention ticket. The charter people tell me the earlier we can commit to going the firmer the price gets. So what I propose is if your interested let me know ASAP, phone or e-mail is the best way to contact me. I'll keep a list of interested people and if there are enough people who want to go this way then we'll proceed, if not the idea will be dropped.

I'd really like to have responses back to me by November 15, 1997. If there is enough interest then 1/2 of the fare will be due by Dec. 10, 1997 and the balance by Feb 10, 1998. If you commit to going there will be no refunds, however if you can find a substitute to take your place then that's fine. Ok, if you're ready to go, then contact Chuck Sommer 301-286-6790 days or e-mail csommer@juno.com or mail to:

Chuck Sommer 16106 Atlantis Drive, Bowie, MD 20716



American Radio Relay League Report

By John Swafford,
W4HU

The Purpose of the ARRL Report is to provide the essential news of interest to active, organizationally minded radio amateurs faster than it can be disseminated by our official Journal QST. We strive to be fast, accurate and readable in our reporting. Material from the ARRL Report may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, including photo reproduction and electronic data banks, provided that credit is given to The ARRL Letter and The American Radio Relay League.

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state or local authority could show its restrictions were necessary for health, safety or aesthetic reasons.

It was also announced at the Executive Committee meeting that the League will submit comments in Mass Media Bureau Docket 97-182 supporting a comprehensive antenna facilities siting policy, including amateur antenna structures.

The ARRL also continues to pursue FCC preemption of local and state attempts to regulate in the area of RF radiation safety.

The Committee also was told that numerous comments, most of them supportive, were filed on the ARRL's petition (RM-9150) seeking to improve the FCC's handling of private-sector complaints of serious amateur rules violations. The League has filed reply comments in the matter.

In other matters, the Executive Committee:

- *responded to a request from Southwestern Division Director Fried Heyn, WA6WZO, that the ARRL study a possible expansion of the existing special event call sign program to include call signs other than the 1x1 format now available. ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, told the Committee that demand for 1x1 special event call signs has been low. Just 54 call signs were coordinated during the first six weeks of the new program that lets clubs or individuals reserve 1x1 special event call signs for temporary use via the Internet. Sumner noted, however, that there is some demand for special event call signs outside of the 1x1 block.

- *will recommend to the ARRL Board of Directors the creation of the category of International member that would encompass present Associate members who are licensed but are not eligible for Full membership. In addition, the Board will hear a recommendation to have the International Affairs Vice President "bring to the Board the concerns of members in other countries."

*will recommend to the Board that the Technical Excellence Award be renamed the Doug DeMaw Technical Excellence Award, as requested by several members who have earned this award.

*agreed that the League will file in opposition to a waiver request and petition for rulemaking by Sierra Digital Communications Inc. Sierra Digital Communications seeks increased power for its product—an unlicensed point-to-point data communications link operating under Part 15 rules at 25 GHz.

*voted that the President and Executive Vice President shall develop a plan to reinstate the strategic planning process.

4U1WRC TO MARK WRC-97

The International Amateur Radio Club in Geneva will operate 4U1ITU under the call sign 4U1WRC to mark the Radiocommunication Assembly (RA-97) and the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-97) that get underway there later this month. A commemorative QSL card will be available for contacts between October 20 and November 21, 1997.

4U1WRC will be operational in all modes, including PACTOR and Clover.

4U1ITU is maintained by the IARC for the use and benefit of club members and by other licensed radio amateurs. It's intended "to serve as a model

of amateur radio operation at its highest standard." The station is located at ITU headquarters QSL to IARC, Box 6, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland.

AMSAT-NA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETS, ELECTS OFFICERS

Bill Tynan, W3XO, will continue as president of AMSAT-NA for another year. Tynan was re-elected during a meeting of the AMSAT-NA Board of Directors during the recent 1997 AMSAT-NA Annual Meeting and Space Symposium in Toronto, Ontario. Also re-elected was Executive Vice President Keith Baker, KB1SF, and Vice President, Operations Keith Pugh, W5IU. Stan Wood, WA4NFY, succeeds Dick Jansson, WD4FAB, as vice president, engineering. Jansson had previously indicated he intended to step down but has agreed to complete all of the remaining engineering tasks on his schedule up through and including the launch of Phase 3D. Martha Saragovitz was elected secretary.

The Board named Perry Klein, W3PK, as founding president emeritus. He joins Tom Clark, W3IWI, as an AMSAT-NA president emeritus.

Newly elected board members Joë Holman, AD7D, and Wood joined their colleagues Clark, Tynan, Baker, Dick Daniels, W4PUJ, and Andy MacAllister, W5ACM during the meeting October 19 and 20. Wood and Phase 3D Integration Laboratory Manager Lou McFadin, W5DID, presented a complete rundown of the status of the Phase 3D spacecraft. Significant progress has been made on upgrading the spacecraft structure since last summer, and those structural modifications are now nearing completion. While work on several systems remains, the spacecraft is becoming flight-ready.

The Board also agreed—in cooperation with Tucson Amateur Packet Radio (TAPR)—to help an ongoing effort to minimize the impact of moving current APRS users off 145.79 MHz. The Board agreed to donate up to \$500 to help defray needed expenses of various fixed-frequency APRS node

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operators to find new homes for their operations. If it proves acceptable to the APRS community, the frequency shift would contribute to an effort to clear 145.80 MHz for worldwide use by Mir, SAREX and the International Space Station.

Survivors include his wife, Dorothy, a son and daughter, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

IN BRIEF:

Tynan also welcomed former ARRL New England Director Bill Burden, WB1BRE, as AMSAT-NA's new vice president for strategic planning. "Bill brings a wealth of experience in both engineering project management as well as in planning corporate strategic initiatives to the AMSAT team," AMSAT-NA said in a news release. "His skill and experience will prove invaluable as AMSAT contemplates future projects beyond Phase 3D.

ROBERT M. MORRIS, W2LV, SK

Inventor, researcher and radio pioneer Bob Morris, W2LV, of Sparta, New Jersey, died October 15. He was 95. Morris was first licensed in 1922 as 2CQZ. He became 2LV (later W2LV) in the late 1920s. Early in his amateur career, Morris' 2CQZ (running a spark gap transmitter) was among the stations heard in Great Britain and in Europe during the ARRL's Third Transatlantic Test. He later worked with Edwin H. Armstrong, the man credited with inventing FM, and his is credited with developing FM radio as well as VU meters and early TV standards. He retired in 1966 after a 42-year career as an inventor, researcher, and broadcast engineer.

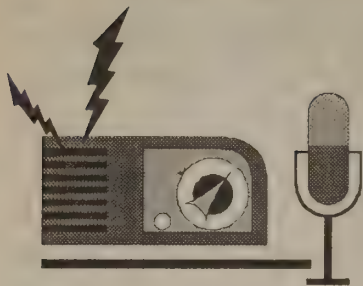
Among other citations, he received the Engineering Achievement award from the National Association of Broadcasters and the Jack Poppele Award from the Radio Club of America. A noted broadcasting historian and storyteller, Morris appeared in Ken Burns' documentary *Empire of the Air—the Men who Made Radio*. He was a member of the ARRL for 75 years, a founding member of the Antique Wireless Association and of the New Jersey DX Association, and a member of the Sussex County Amateur Radio Club.

*Mir PMS is QRX: Because of his heavy workload aboard Mir, US astronaut Dave Wolf, KC5VPF, has not had any spare time to read or respond to the mail on the Mir's packet system (PMS or personal message system). The packet mailbox is full, however, so Wolf has shut down the packet system until he has some spare time to read and respond to the mail there. He expects to be back on the air soon. —Miles Mann, WF1F

*ARRL debuts 160-meter book: The ARRL will introduce DXing on the Edge—the Thrill of 160 meters, by Jeff Briggs, K1ZM, in late November. DXing on the Edge gives an insider's view at what it takes to make it on 160 meters and includes lots of interesting Topband history.

*W3XO elected Radio Club of America fellow: AMSAT-NA President Bill Tynan, W3XO, has been elected a fellow of the Radio Club of America. He's scheduled to receive his award at the club's annual dinner on November 21 in New York. The Radio Club of America, founded January 2, 1909, is the world's oldest radio communications society. The club provides grants in aid to educational institutions and other worthy causes related to radio communications, as well as sponsoring technical meetings and publishing a journal, *Proceedings*. —AMSAT News Service/Ray Soifer, W2RS

*NYC Marathon volunteers sought: The New York City Marathon is an annual event that affords Amateur Radio operators a chance to provide a needed public service. Every year in November, approximately 4000 runners embark on a 26-mile run. This year's event, held on November 2, will need at least 400 communicators. You'll need a dual-band (2 meters/70cm) hand-held transceiver. All who volunteer will receive a phone call and a marathon packet that includes all the needed official items.



DX DX DX

By John Kanode,
N4MM

NOVICE AND TECHNICIAN PLUS DXCC

Can a Novice or Technician Plus earn DXCC? Of course the answer is YES. Some may doubt this but if an Novice or Technician Plus amateur puts in a reasonable effort, it can be done. The best way to work alot of countries very quickly is to operate during the upcoming ARRL Ten Meter Contest. Working DX on ten has been very spotty in the past years but with the solar action this year's 10 meter contest may be very productive for newer amateurs to work new countries. Before the contest, one should have a copy of the rules of the contest. These can be found in November 1997 QST on page 108. One should also have a latest copy of the ARRL DXCC Countries List. It can be purchased from ARRL for \$2.00 postpaid. To get entry forms, send an E-Mail message to info@arrl.org. Enter the following text in the body of your message:

HELP
SEND 10M.FRM
SEND 10M.RLS
QUIT

You can also get if from the ARRL BBS (860-594-0306) or on the WWW, at <http://www.arrl.org/contest/forms>.

What to expect in the way of DX during the contest? Most of the DX will be Central and South America stations. There will be activity from Africa. If conditions are good, Europe will be workable. In the afternoon, stations from the South Pacific, New Zealand and Australia will be heard. Asia stations will more than likely not be workable unless conditions are very good. In a few more

years, it will be easy to work many stations in Japan, Korea, China and other Asian countries. It does not take a KW and a 200 ft tower to work OX on Ten Meters. Several years ago, I worked over 100 stations on Ten Meters using a 25 watt Radio Shack rig and a 54 inch vertical antenna on the ground.

One can earn DXCC with a 100 watt transceiver and a small 3 element beam at 3\$ ft. Most of the contest on phone is between 28.350 and 28.600 MHz. Most of the CW is between 28.000 and 28.120 MHz. When working the contest, be sure to read and understand the rules of the contest and of course stay within the frequency limits of your license.

If conditions turn out to be excellent, it is possible to work DXCC during the contest. If not, one can get a good start on it.

The ARRL Ten Meter Contest takes place on December 13-14, 1997 from 0000 UTC Saturday to 2400 UTC on Sunday.

UPCOMING DX CONTESTS

ARRL 160 Meter Contest

December 5-7, 1997

FAIRS HF DX Data Contest

December 6-7, 1997

ARRL 10 Meter Contest

December 13-14, 1997

RAC Canada Winter Contest

December 28, 1997

After a very long delay, the US State Department has applied for US participation in the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) Amateur Radio licensing system. This occurred on September 22, 1997 and hopefully this action will make it easier for US amateurs to operate temporarily in European countries. Holders of a CEPT license could operate in CEPT participating countries without having to apply for a reciprocal

Continued next page

license. There are details to be worked out, so it may be a while before US amateurs can apply for a CEPT license.

I just received a most needed DX survey from DX Publishing, Inc. It is used to determine what countries are needed by a majority of the DX community. I hope those who got one will take the time to fill it out and return it in the SASE.

The ARRL will have a new DX book out by November. It is DXing on the Edge, the Thrill of 160 Meters by Jeff Briggs, K1ZM.

The first China-EME QSO's were made on October 18, 1997 from the BY1QH Tsinghua University Amateur Radio Club.

The DXAC is now considering a recommendation to delete Southern Sudan and Kure Island from the ARRL DXCC Countries List. More info when available.

ST9C is a pirate station. He says to QSL to K8CW. K8CW has never heard of ST9C. Do not work this station.

LZ0A is a Bulgarian base on Livingston Island in the South Shetlands. Dan, LZ2UU is using this call during the summer season.

TT85E and TTBE8 will be on from Chad until January 15, 1998. They will be active on CW/SSB/RTTY and SSTV. QSLs go to F6FNU.

A WARM FUZZY FEELING

Irvin Barb W4DHU

Not long ago our daughter and her husband moved out of our area here in the Shenandoah Valley to Tennessee taking our little granddaughter Jessica with them. We had practically raised Jessica who was now 7 years old.

It certainly did not take very long for Granmaw and Granddaddy to get home sick and we soon found ourselves headed south on I-81. Once in the southern Virginia area I found myself in a round table rag chew with several of the good ol' boys.

I did not have my daughters address, only her phone number somewhere around Johnson City, Tennessee. I had told our group how anxious we were to see our little Jessica and I asked if the number I had was a local call. One of the group informed me that it was not, but it did not matter he would make the call. I asked him not to make the toll call since we had more

than an hour to go, I could have someone down the line to make the call and get the address for me.

Soon I was in QSO with another group on a repeater near our destination when a local Ham agreed to make the call for us. He soon called back to inform us that the number was still busy after two calls, and that he would keep trying. Finally he got thru and was relaying directions to us from our daughter.

When we arrived almost an hour later, we found little Jessica waiting for us in the yard, and what a great sight that was. Wondering, I asked, "where is your Mom?" Jessica said her Mom was still on the phone. Finally our Daughter, Cheryl, came into the yard saying "Dad I don't know what you have done, but the phone has been ringing continuously for the past hour, everyone asking for Jessica". I finally told them that, "I was Jessica" and learned that you were on your way in.

The Loudoun Hospital Move - amateur radio was there!

By:

Michael Weber WB8RDN

Bill Lorentz KS4II

Tom Yost WB8ZRP

John Foote W3GX

Bill Frisbie W3EMH

Ray Mullins KD4RSL and

Mark Feit KR4FH

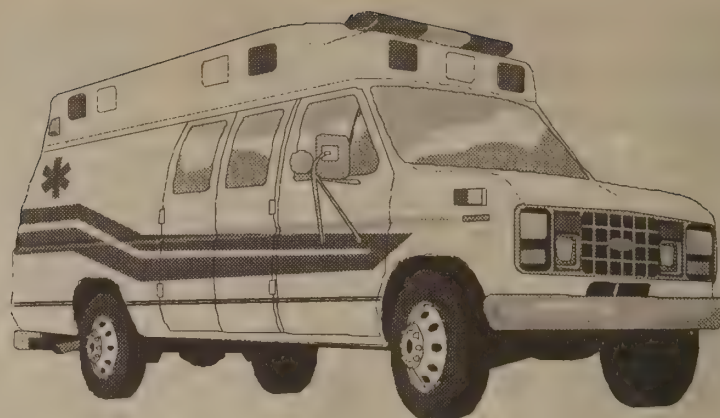
Photos by W3GX

On 18 October 1997, Loudoun Hospital moved from their facility of 85 years in Leesburg, Virginia to a new state of the art Hospital campus at the Lansdowne development, half way between Leesburg and Sterling along Rt. 7.

Amateur Radio played a large part of what Mike Sheehan, the Loudoun Hospital Move Coordinator, termed "a military type operation". Amateurs also received significant media coverage for their efforts, as well as visibility with the Loudoun area authorities. Here is how it was accomplished:

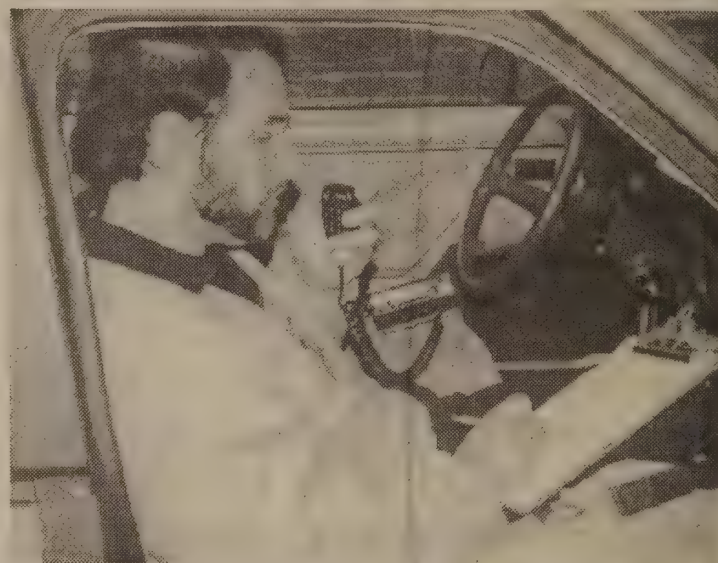
Earlier this year, the Dulles Amateur Radio Group (130 members) and the Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club (35 members) began discussions with Loudoun Hospital officials to see what support amateur radio could provide to this effort. With little organized amateur radio public service effort in Loudoun County, and wishing to avoid waiting until the last minute to begin planning the support, DARG and SPARC teamed up early to manage the amateur effort.

The Hospitals Move Coordinator, was contacted and officials of both clubs met with him in June 1997 to brief him on amateur radio



capabilities. He was impressed and immediately saw the benefit amateur radio could provide to this project!

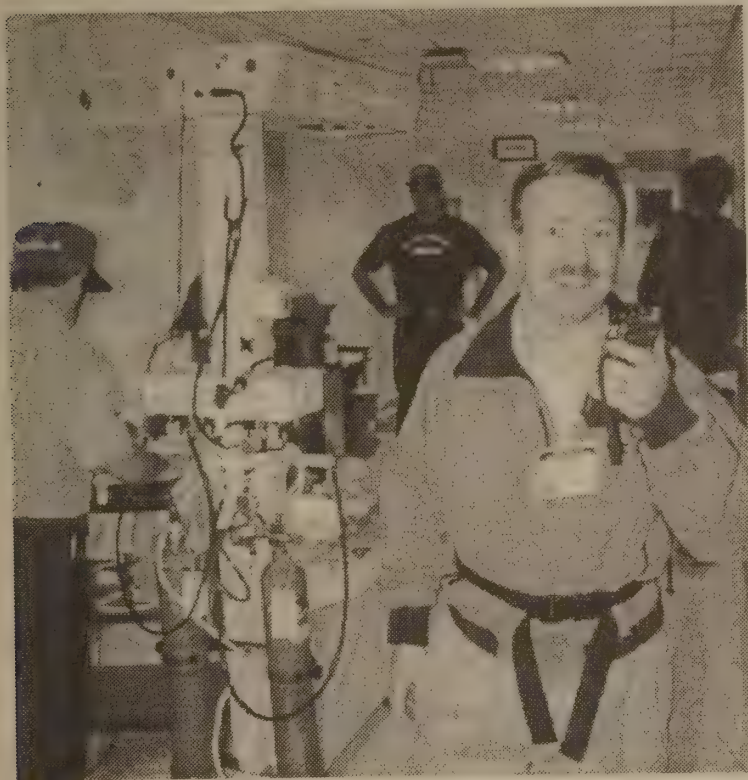
That evening, a core Planning Committee was formed consisting of Bill Lorentz KS4II (President of SPARC and a member of DARG), Tom Yost WB8ZRP (a member of SPARC and member of DARG's Board of Directors) and Michael Weber WB8RDN (President of DARG and member of SPARC). Discussions with the members of both clubs quickly followed and amateurs began signing up to assist.



Mike, N4PDY operating Lansdowne Link

On 3 August 1997, a formal briefing was held at a local library meeting room for the amateur community where details known at that time were presented. Specific details of the Hospital's proposed "Mock Moves" were discussed as well as radio equipment needs, battery use, and how amateur radio would be used. As participation in and the scope of the effort grew, additional skilled

amateurs with Project Management and Public Service experience joined the core Planning Committee with John W3GX, Bill W3EMH, Mark KR4FH and Ray KD4RSL stepping forward.



Steve, KA1LM at Lansdowne

The Hospital staged "Mock Moves" on 23 August and 20 September 1997. The developing amateur move support was there to help, and to "shake out" any equipment, personnel or operational problems prior to the actual move on 18 October. Assistance was based on two simplex nets, one at each Hospital campus with a simplex link between the sites (with redundant equipment and batteries).

The Net at Leesburg (7 miles from Lansdowne) operated on 70 cm, while the Net at Lansdowne and the link between the sites operated on unique 2 meter frequencies. Simplex operation was preferred because it would most closely simulate disaster conditions, where patients or injured persons must be moved and repeaters possibly would not function. Tactical callings were established for the needed positions inside and outside of each Hospital building. Amateurs were assigned at critical observation posts such as the Emergency Rooms, Loading Docks, Nursing Stations, Birthing Inn and Intensive Care Units.

Due to the evolving nature of this effort, countless meetings were held by Hospital officials, with amateur radio core Planning Committee members attending many them. One result was the addition of amateur "shadow" operators who were assigned to follow every critical Hospital official.

The local Nets, the Leesburg-to-Lansdowne link plus the "shadows" formed a system with which Mike Sheehan (Move Coordinator) and Bill Green (Hospital Director of Security) could locate and reach any member of their staff within moments, throughout both Mock Moves and during Patient Move Day.

With Loudoun County Fire and Rescue's Communications Van at Leesburg and in touch with the move ambulances, the loop was closed and the GT.. Dunlop Esker, President and CEO of Loudoun Healthier and his administrators had gained total logistical control. Having this control would be critical to the timely movement of the ill and injured patients from one acute care facility to the other.



Cathy, KA3QPU, Lansdowne Birthing Inn

An amateur was posted at the Loudoun County Fire and Rescue "Command and Control

Communications Van" and its members were well aware of the amateur's ability to support this large scale effort. Upon completion of the second Mock Move, having validated their "Command, Control and Communications", including the vital amateur radio component,

Hospital executives declared they were ready for Patient Move Day and at an afternoon gathering of several hundred Mock Move participants, Hospital officials and other volunteers literally applauded the efforts of the Dulles Amateur Radio Group and Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club.



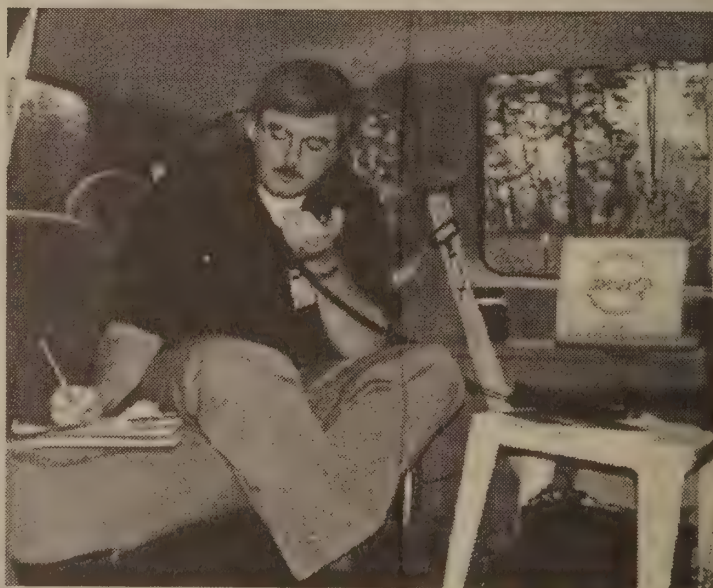
Tom, KD4GSY at Lansdowne Main Entrance

"Lessons learned" from both Mock Move "critiques" were implemented with adjustments made to the master plan. Due to the evolving nature of this Hospital Move, the amateur support was coordinated through nearly a thousand E-mail messages, hundreds of telephone calls, dozens of "on the air" Nets and weekly in-person Planning Committee meetings needed to adjust the move coverage. Continual recruiting yielded the necessary forty amateurs who were committed to on site assistance at both Mock Moves and Patient Move Day. Other amateurs provided vital "behind the scenes" support to the Core Planning Committee.

Members of the Core Planning Committee each spent literally hundreds of hours planning every detail. This would be, many believed, one of the largest disaster related amateur radio public service event ever in Loudoun County.

Finally, all the planning, amateur operator recruiting and briefings were completed and amateur radio was ready to assist in "the big day - Patient Move Day" which in early September had been declared a "Regional Disaster Drill" by the State of Virginia. The Hospital had originally planned to move between 50 and 80 patients and they were hoping to significantly reduce that number by halting elective surgery and other "non emergency" hospital treatments prior to Patient Move Day.

Patient Move Day was supported by 15 ambulances from as far away as Alexandria, hundreds of Loudoun Hospital employees and volunteers, a Hospital equipment moving company, dozens of Fire and Rescue officials and amateur radio operators from DARG and SPARC. A formal timeline was prepared and publicized in advance by the Core Planning Committee so amateur radio coordinators at each site were in total cinch with each other.



Ray, KD4RSL, "Lansdowne Net Control"

Patient Move Day began very early for amateur radio on that damp and cold morning with amateurs arriving in Leesburg and Lansdowne before 6 AM.

By 7 AM, radio equipment was set up and tested and the briefings began. By 7:30 AM, formal directed Nets were activated with W4DLS (DARG club callsign) used at the Leesburg site and K4NVA (SPARC club callsign) used at the Lansdowne site.

At exactly 8 AM, patients began to be transported to the waiting ambulances and the move was underway. The entire Patient Move Day went like clockwork without unexpected situations. Media representatives from 6 local newspapers including the Washington Post interviewed the amateur radio participants and asked many excellent questions about our volunteer efforts and amateur radio. Numerous articles highlighting amateur radio participation appeared in these newspapers along with photographs of many amateur volunteers.

Two of the local cable TV channels also covered the event and again, Amateur Radio volunteers were featured in their coverage. In addition, representatives from two Richmond, VA, Hospitals that are merging into a new facility in 1998 were on hand to observe Patient Move Day and were briefed on what amateur radio could do in support of their project and later put in touch with key Richmond area amateurs.

The entire Patient Move Day effort was a huge success with all the patients moved quickly and safely. The efforts of amateur radio, the Dulles Amateur Radio Group and the Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club, through comments from numerous Loudoun Hospital officials, Loudoun County Fire and Rescue officials and many others, were clearly appreciated.

In a letter to the amateur radio volunteers afterwards, Mike Sheehan-Hospital Move Coordinator stated "The patient move would not have gone as well as it did without your assistance in providing the critical communications links between staffs and between sites. Issues that may have grown into serious problems were resolved quickly thanks to the excellent communications provided by the amateur radio operators".

Clearly, the significant planning had paid off and the dedication, professionalism and public service volunteer spirit of the amateurs in this area of Northern Virginia promises a bright future for amateur radio public service in and around Loudoun County. Discussions are already underway with other organizations in Western Fairfax and Loudoun County regarding future opportunities for amateur radio support. DARG and SPARC will again team up to support the community as the need arises.

The following individuals played a vital part in the success of this public service project: John KC3BM, Mike KD4ITN, Mark KR4FH, Bill W3EMH, Elena KD4DEI, Jeff KR4YS, Shirley N4STM, Pat N4AYV, Mike N4FXP, Tom KB2BCG, Brad KD4ITM, David KE4KGN, David KE4OKY, Norm KD4LTH, Lee KE4JEN, Tom WB8ZRP, Barbara KA8FUI, Ken K4EVH, Cathy KA3QPU, Don WA4AVU, David KD4YIJ, Dean KE4JEQ, John W3GX, Janet KF4BTJ, Steve KA1LM, Jim KD4GSX, Tom KD4GSY, Dana W4DFK, Chris WA1ZXX, Bill KS4II, Ray KD4RSL, Bill N4WJN, Mike N4PDY, Larry KD4HAS, Louis N4KWP, Chris N4PBI, Sylvia N4RNH, Gary KD4SRX, Bill W1HRE, John WB4YMT, Craig N4FSC, Ann KD4GSS, Mike WB8RDN, Marcia KD4ITP and Patti Cruz.

Amateur Radio supported Loudoun Hospital at a critical time in their history and DARG and SPARC became an important part of that history.

Chapter X



Society 
of Wireless Pioneers

THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION
OF PROFESSIONAL RADIO TELEGRAPHERS

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Getting the Most From Your Hand Held Transceiver

C. Edward Harris, KE4SKY
AEC Fairfax ARES

When limited to "barefoot" operation with a "rubber duck" on simplex, HTs are not adequate as a primary rig for emergency communications. I started with an HT when I first got my license and generally recommend full-powered mobiles as a first rig, but they don't work for everyone. If all you have is an HT, the following will help you "make the most of it."

An HT does make perfectly good sense for:

- 1) Anyone who doesn't drive;
- 2) Commuters who use public transportation;
- 3) Controlling a dual-band mobile in cross-band repeat or;
- 4) As a "spare," backup or loaner.

FACTS ABOUT HT ANTENNAS

National Bureau of Standards tests of Public Safety high band and amateur 2-meter antennas indicate that a "rubber duck" has -5 db "negative gain" compared to a quarter wave at face level. In terms of effective radiated power (ERP), a 5w HT with rubber duck antenna, at face level radiates only 1 watt. Placing the HT on your belt attenuates the signal -20 db further, reducing ERP to only 50 milliwatts! UHF results are little better.

This simple helical spring is intended to withstand rough handling, but is not indestructible. Flexible antennas used on fire lines for several

weeks showed a 60 percent failure rate. California RACES recommends that flexible amateur antennas be replaced annually or when they show any apparent kinks or wear to visual inspection.

A simple, inexpensive and effective expedient which improves a "rubber duck" is the "tiger tail". You can make one of these using a quarter-wave (18-3/4" for 2 meters) piece of #14 through #20 braided wire, crimped and soldered to a battery clip. Reinforce the soldered connection with shrink wrap or tape to resist flex. Clamped to the outer collar of the BNC connector on your HT antenna, it acts as a counterpoise so that RF from the HT doesn't couple with your body.

Numerous antennas work much better than the "rubber duck" that comes with an HT. A flexible 1/4 wave or telescoping half-wave antenna are recommended. A 1/4-wave used with a ground plane, or at face level with a counterpoise has "unity" gain, a 5 db improvement over a rubber duck, because all of the signal is radiated. Using an HT at 5 watts with a 1/4 wave mag mount on an improvised ground plane, or telescoping half wave with a "tiger tail" improves simplex readability.

In marginal locations a telescoping half-wave is a better performer. A half wave used without a ground plane has the same unity gain as a 1/4 wave when used with a ground plane. Adding an effective ground plane or counterpoise to a half-wave produces 2 db of gain.

Telescoping antennas work best operating stationary or in the open, avoiding side impacts or rough handling. A telescoping half wave can be attached to a coax jumper and pulled into a tree, dangled out a window, attached to a window pane with suction cups or used with a window clip door mount, mobile in city traffic. Avoid prolonged mobile use at high speed, because excessive flexing will loosen the internal electrical connections.

Never collapse a telescoping antenna by whacking it down with the palm of your hand. Gently pull it down with your fingers. If you note

any wobbling or looseness, replace the telescoping radiator, if possible or replace the antenna.

Flexible antennas are safer when working in close quarters around people and are more durable when walking through dense vegetation during search and rescue operations. They are a good choice for dual-band transceivers because telescoping antennas are usually limited to a single-band.

Dual-band flexibles are usually optimized for one band and merely "acceptable" on the others. Most approximate a 1/4 wave on 2 meters and a 5/8 wave on 70 cm, but how efficient a particular antenna is can be determined only by testing.

If you want to buy one emergency HT antenna, without risk or experimentation, the telescoping half-wave, flexible quarter wave and quarter wave mobile magnetic mounts offer the best "bang for the buck." A telescoping half-wave boosts practical simplex range of a 5 watt, 2-meter HT from the typical mile or so with a rubber duck to 3 miles or more over rolling terrain.

Adding a tiger tail further improves copy at the fringes, extending simplex range to 5 miles or so. Whatever HT gain antenna you get should be rated for 25W so that it can also serve as an emergency antenna for a mobile rig at medium power or with a brick amp.

A 1/4 wave mag mount with 15 ft. of coax and a female UHF to male BNC adapter can be used with an HT, connected to a brick amp or higher powered mobile rig. It works best on a car, but a suitable improvised ground plane can usually be found around the home or office, such as a metal filing cabinet, metal trash can, refrigerator, rain gutter, window air conditioning unit, balcony railing or other large metal object.

An effective, portable improvised ground plane is easily constructed from a pipe floor flange, 1/4" bolts, nuts and lock washers, attaching 20" radials bent from #10 solid steel or aluminum rod.

BATTERY BASICS

It is highly recommended that you routinely carry two fully charged nicad packs and an extra AA battery case, so you can continue to operate if you can't recharge your nicads. It is important in cold weather to keep nicads warm, not exposed on your belt. Adapter cords enabling you to use DC power taken from an auto cigarette lighter plug or a gel cell battery, are needed for extended operation.

The popular cigarette lighter plug power cords are often unreliable because auto lighter sockets are often contaminated and not the best conductors. They also vary in size, so the plug can vibrate loose. As an alternate source of power, everyone should still have one, because they are ubiquitous and in a pinch, much better than nothing.

Commercial power packs, such as Quantum, are excellent, but expensive. Your group can make its own using Yuasa NP2-12 or similar 12-volt, 2 amp-hour gel cells. These fit in a coat pocket, run an HT all day or power a VHF mini-amp for 3 hours at a typical duty cycle. Purchased new they are expensive, but medical facilities use them to power diagnostic instruments and they are replaced on schedule before they are worn out. Lead acid batteries require disposal as hazardous waste, unless recycled or reused, so a hospital's "donation" to your ARES organization reduces their disposal cost.

Your EC could write a letter to the purchasing agent or environmental officer of the local hospital, explaining how gel batteries a few years old, which they discard are useful to provide power for your emergency communications activity. It may be possible to obtain a useful quantity free for the asking, with no more trouble than signing a hand receipt to satisfy the environmental officer and writing a thank you letter to the administrator.

Assemble auxiliary power cords to power your HT and small brick amp following the standard wiring configuration shown in the ARRL ARES

Resource Manual. Use twin lead AWG12 to AWG16 gage "zip line" with Molex Series 1545, 2-pin polarized connectors and .093 pins. In ARES practice the female pins are assembled into the male plug and the male pins into the female receptacle. The plug, receptacle and pin sets cost \$0.99 each from Radio Shack, Part No. 274-222 and are rated at 8 amps, which is adequate to power small brick amps up to 35w output.

Electronic suppliers carry the genuine Molex parts in bulk. These are rated at 11 amps and suitable for mobile rigs up to 50w.

Wiring is simple. The end of the two-pin Molex plug in cross section resembles a little 2-story house with peaked roof. It's easy to remember the proper polarity by using the word associations "red roof" and "black basement," or "pointy positive" and "flat black." Crimp the tabs to hold the wires in place before soldering them to ensure a strong connection. After inserting the pins into the plug and receptacle, check fit of the assembled fitting and reinforce the wires behind the plug and receptacle with heat shrink or tape. On the battery ends attach crimp type .187" female tab terminals to fit the male tabs on the battery. Wire a plug receptacle onto the leads of a 12-15v, 500 mah to 900 mah charger. A depleted 2 ah battery is restored in 4 to 6 hours, but gel cells may be continually trickle charged without harm.

You can rig two sets of cords directly from your car battery to power an HT and your brick amplifier without using the cigarette lighter plug. This is a good arrangement for using an HT in the vehicle during your commute and taking it with you when you park the car. Splice AGC type fuse holders on the red or "hot" leads, as close to the battery as possible. Use a 2 amp fuse for the HT and 10 amp for a 25w-50w brick amp. Use a heavier gage wire than needed to reduce voltage drop, and use different sizes, such as AWG 16 for the HT and AWG 12 for the brick amp, so the two cords are easily distinguished by both sight and feel.

HAND HELD DUTY CYCLE LIMITS

If you subject today's HTs to frequent full power, 5w transmissions of several minutes duration they overheat and the final power transistors may fail prematurely. Kenwood and Yaesu state in their service manuals that their HTs are rated for 20% duty cycle at their maximum RF output, or 30 seconds of transmit to 2 minutes of standby. After I first got my license, I burned up three sets of "finals" in less than a year with long winded QSOs using a Radio Shack HTX-202 which produced 8w when powered at 13.8V from my auto cigarette lighter plug! When the warranty ran out, I replaced it with a Kenwood TH-22 and repeated the same result. Kenwood's Virginia Beach service center politely admonished me that I was "exceeding the recommended duty cycle" and should buy a mobile. I followed their advice and am satisfied with my two Kenwood mobiles, but I sought out other HTs and pass that advice along.

Of the popular 2-meter HT's, Standard does not restrict duty cycle on theirs, rating their amateur hand helds equal in that respect to their aviation, marine, commercial and public safety portables. My advice is that unless your HT is a Standard, older Icom or converted commercial gear, it is best to use your HT mostly on medium or low power for long winded rag chews and restrict full power 5w use to short transmissions to save the finals. If you have a need for high power transmissions of several minutes duration and can't afford to replace or supplement your hand held with a mobile rig, my advice is to get a small 25-50w brick amp to do the work. This keeps your HT from overheating, and helps ensure a solid copy signal for \$100 or less.

ADVICE ON BRICK AMPLIFIERS

An ideal small amp for an HT owner to upgrade his portable ARES equipment, at modest cost should weigh under a 1 1/2 pounds, be capable of 10 to 15w output when driven by an HT at 1/2-1w, or 30 to 40w output when driven by the same HT at normal 2 or 3w output from its 7.2 volt nicad

battery pack. It should draw no more than 8 amps current at its maximum rated output, enabling it to operate safely from the .093 pin Molex Series 1545 connector or fused cigarette lighter plug.

An FM-only brick without a preamp is fine, unless you have an all-mode, weak signal rig, equipped with a notch filter or cavity bandpass to suppress intermodulation distortion from paging transmitters and the like. Brick amps which have been satisfactory in our group experience are the Mirage B-23, the dual-band Mirage BD-45, and RF Concepts Mini 144. There are larger amps producing 100+ watts output when driven by an HT, but their size, 5+lb. weight and 20+ amp power consumption lend them more to base or rover, wide area simplex coverage, than to local "backpack portable" ARES operation.

Be wary of bargain, "no-name" amps you'll see at ham fests or in discount catalogs. Some are not aligned properly for the entire U.S. 2-meter band, many lack thermal protection circuitry for over voltage, overdrive or high VWSR or simply may have an inadequate heat sink and will overheat and quit. A friend bought an amp from MCM Electronics for \$69 which worked fine on packet, some repeaters and on simplex from 146.415 to 146.585, but did not function at all above 147 MHZ. MCM took it back and refunded his money cheerfully.

Though aware of duty cycle limitations in small amps having minimal heat sink, I still wanted a tiny amp for my "Go Kit," to boost an HT when really needed. I found a Maxon CA-1461, which

is only 1.7"x1.7"x5.5" and weighed 9 ozs. and bought the last one that Associated Equipment Sales had displayed at the Gaithersburg ham fest. It was reputed to be for 2 meters, but it did not produce rated output as received. The seller didn't offer a refund, but told me to return it to Maxon.

Instead, I had KE4VIH open it, since he is talented and had access to test equipment. It was aligned for marine and VHF Public Safety high bands, but it had an adjustment "pot" and came down easily to 2 meters. A minor glitch was that the "Tx In" and "Ant Out" ports were unmarked. The jumper provided had male BNC and UHF connectors which led me to hook it up reversed! Fortunately, nothing inside was damaged. Using a double-male BNC to connect the HT to the input and a dummy load on the UHF output, John soon got it working.

It now produces 15w out with 1w of drive, or 25w out for 2w. It doesn't get uncomfortably warm after five minutes of key-down at 15w into a dummy load, but does get warm after 3 minutes at 25w, as you might expect. It performed well on packet during the Marine Corps Marathon, but a longer trial is needed before recommending that you get one to "mod." Unless you know how to modify commercial gear, my advice is to buy an amp of known brand, with an ample heat sink, from a supplier who backs their product rather than seeking the smallest "box" at the lowest price.

For further information see the Virginia ARES web page at: <http://www.aresva.org>. Reply To: ed_harris@p3006.F120.n109.z1.fidonet.org.

Basic Skywarn Class

A Basic I Skywarn class near Annapolis MD has been scheduled for Wednesday, December 3, 1997 from 7 PM to 10 PM. To register, please call Melody Hall at (410) 222-8040.

FAR Meeting Minutes

October 8, 1997
Takoma Park, MD



FAR President, Chuck Sommer (N4OSD), called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. at Columbia Union College in Takoma Park, MD.

The attendees introduced themselves. There were 23 trustees in attendance and included:

Charles Johnson, N3HFO
Anne Arundel RC & NVFMA
Tony Young, WA3YLO
Anne Arundel Radio Club
Al Brown, KZ3AB
Antietam RA & MEPN
W. Page Pyne, WA3EOP
Antietam RA & Opequeon RS
Steve Urquiza, N3IDX
Calvert Amateur Radio Society
Donald Kirby KR3A
Calvert Amateur Radio Society
George Stephens WB3DAC
Capitol Hill ARC
Hugh Turnbull W3ABC
FAR Scholarship Committee
Ed Mumford N3IRQ
Frederick ARC
Mildred Mumford N3KGQ
Frederick ARC
Ernie Farkas K3CBW
Historical Electronics Museum ARC
Arch Arcilesi K3WUR
Leisure World ARC
Henry Carleton N2AHA
Leisure World ARC
Joe Handley K3LLL
Maryland FM Association
Ruth Phillips K3AGR
Metrovision ATV & NRL ARC

Mary Morris N4TCI
Mt Vernon ARC
Lenny Schachter N3RPQ
Natl Cap ARES Cncl & MADRAS
John Klim N3KHK
NOAA ARC
Joel Harding KE3YK
Pentagon ARC & Montgomery ARC
Chuck Sommer N4OSD
PG Co RACES/ARES
Ken Easton N3HLY
PGWA & GMRA
Cam Marie W3EPR
QCWA Chapter 20
Hugh Katz KB3TB
Voice of America ARC

Secretary's Report - The September minutes were approved as mailed.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Charles Johnson (N3HFO) and accepted.

Auto-Call - Tony Young (WA3YLO) reported success at the CARA Hamfest, which was held on October 5. Millie and Ed Mumford (N3KGQ and N3IRO, respectively) reported 17 new subscriptions or renewals. They also sold eight copies of Auto-Call.

Survivor's Assistance - Tony Young (WA3YLO) reported that he has sold most of Ethel's gear. He also has a 40-foot tilt-over tower, rotator, antennas and control box for \$300. It is located in "greater Bowie, MD." For more information, contact Tony at 301-262-1917.

Scholarship Committee - Hugh Turnbull (W3ABC) reported that he has received \$1,000 from the Ole Virginia Hams ARC to be added to the Silent Key Memorial fund. Hugh attended the Virginia Beach, VA Hamfest and he met with some of the scholarship recipients and their parents.

Hugh also reported that the scholarship write up has been submitted to John Queen for inclusion

in Auto-Call and publicly thanked Mary Morris (N4TCI) for her assistance. Next year, there will be 64 scholarship awards.

ARRL Report — Hugh Turnbull (W3ABC), ARRL Vice-President, reported that the ARRL has published its latest DXCC Countries List. It is available from the ARRL for \$2.00, postpaid.

The Gettysburg FCC office is now accepting electronic filing for license renewals.

The US State Department has decided to become involved in reciprocal/universal amateur radio licensing. Finally, Hugh received 12 new ARRL memberships at the CARA Hamfest.

FARFest — Chuck Sommer (N4OSD) reported that the date of September 13, 1998 has been secured with the Montgomery County Fairgrounds in Gaithersburg for FARFest 98.

An application to join FAR was submitted by the Calvert Amateur Radio Association. Receipt of their check for \$25.00 was noted. They proposed trustees Donald Kirby (KR3A) and Steven Urquiza (N3IDX). After a brief discussion with both Donald and Steve and a supporting statement by Tony Young (WA3YLO), the trustees unanimously accepted their application.

Congratulations to the Calvert Amateur Radio Association and thank you for supporting the Foundation.

A modification was received from the Mt Vernon ARC to add Jeanne Rexroad (N4GZI) as their second trustee. The modification was approved.

The FAR Board will hold a meeting on Thursday, October 23 with the exact time and place to be announced. The major issue up for discussion is the National Capital ARES Council's (NCAC) proposal for FAR support. For more information, contact Chuck Sommer (N4OSD) on 301-286-6790.

There was a discussion about changing the Maryland meeting site. The trustees decided to continue holding meetings at Columbia Union College and try to secure a meeting room on the ground level of the HMS Richards Building instead of the usual third floor meeting room.

Chuck Sommer (N4OSD) proposed chartering a flight for a one-day trip to the Dayton Hamfest. A *draft* copy of his proposal is attached.

Hugh Turnbull (W3ABC) showed the attractive certificate that was sent out to winners in the Maryland-DC QSO Party which was sponsored by the Antietam Radio Association. Page Pyne (WA3EOP) and Al Brown (KZ3AB) also displayed a plaque that will be presented to the club category winner, the Laurel Amateur Radio Club.

Tony Young (WA3YLO) made the motion for FAR to support next year's Maryland-DC QSO Party by offering to pay for four of the plaques, not to exceed \$150. The motion was approved.

A similar offer will be made to the Sterling Park ARC if they are sponsoring next year's Virginia QSO Party.

Lenny Schachter (N3RPQ) announced the Marine Corps Marathon and the need for support on Sunday, October 26. For more information, call 703-359-3414.

A motion to adjourn was entertained at 8:40 p.m.

The next meeting will be held at Lee Center in Alexandria, VA at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 12. See Auto-Call magazine for directions.

Respectfully submitted,
s/E. Allen Brown
E. Allen Brown, KZ3AB - ZF2AB
Recording Secretary
Foundation for Amateur Radio



Amateur Radio Training

John Forrest WZ4A
6111 Burnett St., Alexandria, VA 22310
(703)971-3905

Please send announcements for training classes and club training contacts to WZ4A at the above address. Deadline is the 25th of the 2nd month prior to the *Auto Call* publication date (e.g., 25 December for the February issue).

Club Training Contacts

Alexandria RC	Rich Adamy KA4GFY	(703) 644-3920
Anne Arundel RC	Tony Young WA3YLO	(301) 262-1917
Arlington ARC	Mike Callaham NW3V	(703) 241-5618
Antietam Radio Assn.	Robert Long KD3JK	(301) 824-5132
BRATS (Baltimore)	Joe Chidester W3SHZ	(410) 602-0353
Baltimore ARC	HAM-TALK, BARC Voice Mail	(410) HAM-TALK x3835
Dulles ARG	Michael Weber WB8RDN	(703) 450-2304
Fauquier ARC	Neil Spokes AB4YK	(540) 364-3861
Frederick ARC	Hal Silverman W3HWC	(301) 831-7946
Historical Electronics ARC	Rol Anders K3RA	(410) 969-0410
Laurel ARC	Pud Reaver W3YD	(301) 498-6293
Mid-Atlantic DX Assn.	Michael Vaia, WB8VBW	(301) 738-3861
Madras	Larry Ziecheck, N3GKZ	(301) 984-6113
MD Mobileers ARC	Bruce Colburn AA3KR	(410) 437-1891
Montgomery ARC	Rocky Jones KC4UXO	(301) 216-5210
Mt. Vernon ARC	John Forrest WZ4A	(703) 971-3905
NASA/Goddard ARC	Vikki Gigante KA3PVS	(301) 249-2609
Ole VA Hams ARC	Charles Dale WA4YGI	(703) 361-3091
Pentagon ARC	David Boyd K9MX	(540) 659-6241
St. Marys Co. ARC	Peter Butt WA3UMY	(301) 862-2214
Shenandoah Val ARC	Godfrey Miller N8GM	(540) 877-2607
Southern MD ARC	Vic Curtis WA3YUV	(301) 888-1388
Southern Pax ARC	Dwayne Kincaid WD8OYG	(410) 586-2177
Stafford Adult Ed	Jerry Mullinix AC4HK	(540) 659-3905
Sterling Park ARC	Forrest Snyder N4UTY	(703) 430-4149
Tri-County ARC	John Creel WB3GXW	(301) 572-5124
Vienna Wireless	Kerry Kingham, WA4BQM	(703) 691-2719
Woodbridge Wireless	Jim Duffey WD4AIR	(703) 491-3170



Volunteer Examiner Cooperative

JOHN FORREST WZ4A
6111 Burnett St.
Alexandria, VA, 22310
(703) 971-3905

ATTENTION VE's: It's time to plan your 1998 test dates. 1998 dates will appear in Autocall soon. Also, copies of the 1998 AutoCall exam schedule will be distributed to local ham radio stores around the middle of December. Please send your 1998 information to WZ4A as soon as possible."

* Effective July 1, 1997, the Novice and Technician written exam question pools (Elements 2 and 3a) will change. Five questions on RF safety will be added to each exam. All books and study materials not based on these new question pools will be obsolete after that date. Be sure to use study materials appropriate for the current question pool.

* Effective January 1, 1997, the maximum FCC authorized exam fee is \$6.26.

1997-98 Schedule of Examinations

December 4 (Thursday)	Martinsburg, WV - MADRA (ARRL VEC) Registrations Requested. Contact Greg Lanham (540) 722-4792
December 7 (Sunday)	Landover, MD - DCMARC (W5YI VEC) Walk-In Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 Day December 13, 1997 (Saturday)
December 13 (Saturday)	Alexandria, VA - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Frank Mackey K4EC (703)455-1510
	Cumberland, MD - (Mountain ARC VEC) Walk-In Contact: Leo Patterson KQ8E (304)289-3576, Gay Rembold W3DFW (301)724-0674

Don't forget to bring your license when upgrading!!

December 13 (Saturday)	Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Bob Israel WC3I (301)262-5083
January 4 (Sunday)	Landover, MD - DCMARC (ARRL VEC) Walk-In Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 Day
January 10 (Saturday)	Alexandria, VA - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Frank Mackey K4EC (703)455-1510
	Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Bob Israel WC3I (301)262-5083
January 17 (Saturday)	Laurel, MD - Laurel ARC (Laurel VEC), Pre-Registration Desirable, Limited Walk-In, Contact: John Creel WB3GXW (301)572-5124 after 6 PM
	Manchester, MD - Hanover Area Hamming Assn. (ARRL VEC) Pre- Registration Preferred - Walk-Ins Accepted, Contact: Ed Davis KE2FN (410)239-8488
February 1 (Sunday)	Landover, MD - DCMARC (W5YI VEC) Walk-In Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 Day
February 14 (Saturday)	Alexandria, VA - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Frank Mackey K4EC (703)455-1510
	Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Bob Israel WC3I (301)262-5083

Don't forget to bring your license when upgrading!!

February 19 (Thursday)	Towson, MD - Baltimore ARC (ARRL VEC) Pre-Registration Preferred, Walk-Ins Accepted Contact: Bill Dobson N3WD (410)HAM-TALK
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February 21 (Thursday)	Laurel, MD - Laurel ARC (Laurel VEC) Pre-Registration Desirable, Limited Walk-In Contact: John Creel WB3GXW (301)572-5124 after 6 PM
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March 1 (Sunday)	Landover, MD - DCMARC (ARRL VEC) Walk-In Contact: Freddie Battle NG3G (202)546-9348 Day
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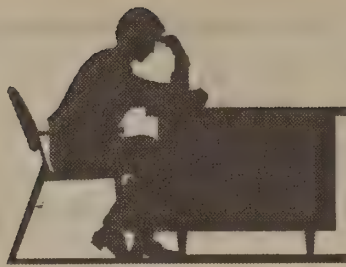
March 14 (Saturday)	Alexandria, VA - Mt. Vernon ARC (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Frank Mackey K4EC (703)455-1510
	Davidsonville, MD - Anne Arundel Radio Club (Laurel VEC) Walk-In Contact: Bob Israel WC3I (301)262-5083

March 19 (Thursday)	Manchester, MD - Hanover Area Hamming Assn. (ARRL VEC) Pre- Registration Preferred - Walk-Ins Accepted Contact: Ed Davis KE2FN (410)239-8488
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TRAINING CLASSES

ELMER COURSE: The Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club will present an Elmer Course to help new hams become more proficient in the hobby by transitioning from license exam study to station building and actual amateur operation. If you have questions, problems, or are feeling left out of the amateur radio community, perhaps we can help. The course will meet from 10:30AM to 1:30PM on the fourth Saturday of each month from August thru December at the Mt. Vernon Government Center on Parkers Lane in the Mt. Vernon area of Alexandria, VA. For information contact: Frank Lempicki, AA4ZS at (703)971-9304 or Chuck Haser, W3HSW at (703)660-6623.

Don't forget to bring your license when upgrading!!



Volunteer Examiner Cooperative

EXAM FEES:

- * Check for appropriate exam fee. Fees and modes of payment for individual VECs and exam teams may vary.
- * ARRL VEC exams cost \$6.25
- * Laurel VEC exams are free
- * Mountain VEC exams are free
- * W5YI VEC exams cost \$6.25

BRING TO EXAM:

- * Picture identification
- * Completed FCC form 610 (most VE teams will supply at exam)
- * Original and a copy of current FCC amateur radio license
- * Originals and copies of all active certificates of successful completion of prior exams
- * Exam fee (check or cash depending on VE team)

"GRANDFATHER" CREDIT FOR ELEMENT 3B (GENERAL WRITTEN):

* If you presently hold a Technician class license which was first issued prior to March 21, 1987, you may be grandfathered for Element 3B (General class written exam) by presenting the original and a copy of the license dated prior to March 21, 1987 to the VE team. It is your responsibility to prove that you are entitled to grandfathering. Do not lose your original license!

RULES FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THE FAR VOLUNTEER EXAMINER COOPERATIVE:

1. All submissions must be in writing
2. Date and day of week must be specified for each exam date
3. Point of contact and phone number must be specified
4. Sponsor and location must be specified
5. VEC must be specified
6. Exam dates up to 12 months in advance will be accepted
7. Deadline for submission is 25th of the 2nd month prior to publication date (e.g., January 25 for March issue)

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NCAC FREQUENCY LIST

Compiled by Ed Harris, KE4SKY, Asst. Emerg. Coordinator, Fairfax Co. ARES

Any corrections or additions are appreciated.
Reply To: ed_harris@p3006.F120.n109.z1.fidonet.org

52.510	FM Simplex		VA Dist 2 ARES/RACES Mutual Assist.
52.525	Nat'l FM Simplex - limit ARES/RACES use to net calls announcing working frequencies.	146.430	Simplex* Arlington/ Fauquier. Co., VA ARES Ch.1. Columbia AARC/ Anne Arundel Co ARES /RACES.
52.540	Simplex		Simplex* Prince William Co. VA, local use.
53.300	Simplex - RACES contacts w/ military stations per 97.407(B)(3).	146.445	Simplex Montgomery Co. RACES Ch. 1.
144.930	Annapolis ATV replexer Pending TMARC.	146.460	Simplex* Prince William Co., VA/ Carroll Co., MD ARES/RACES.
144.950	Baltimore ATV replexer recoordination.	146.475	Simplex* Alexandria, VAARES / St. Mary's/Frederick Co., MD RACES.
144.970	Alexandria ATV replexer to the mid 147-mhz.	146.490	Simplex* DC ARES.
144.990	(PL100.0) Woodbridge Wireless, Prince Wm. ARES Simplex Repeater five packet channels @ 20 khz intervals.	146.505 146.520	Nat'l Simplex. Limit ARES/RACES use to net calls announcing working frequencies.
145.010	No NCAC area use, but used for packet nodes in VA District 1.	146.535	Simplex No NCAC ARES/RACES use, avail. for spl. events, contests.
145.030	Packet nodes BBSBRG, NNSNVA, MANAS, OVH, RESTON.	146.550	Simplex No NCAC ARES/RACES use, primary mobile-to-mobile, contests.
145.050	Packet nodes N3HXT/AA4RE		Simplex Fx. Co., VA ARES Ch. 4 - "SW" (So. of Rt. 50/West of I495). Also National VHF / RDF "fox hunt" frequency. Fx ARES vol. limit of 50w PEP on Fx. Ch. 4 to avoid interference with N3BYJ repeater, Davidsonville, MD.
145.070	Packet nodes VDEN, FARA, FBBS9	146.565	Simplex Frederick Co., MD, ARES/ Free State ARC/Arl. VA local use.
145.090	Packet nodes FARA, FBBS9		Simplex Fx. Co., VA ARES Ch. 3 "SE" (South of I495 and East of I-95).
145.170	SNP, experimental and temporary ARES/RACES tactical repeaters.		Alexandria MVARC Repeater, Fairfax ARES events in "SE" quadrant.
145.350	Waldorf, MD (156.7) - Skywarn Eastern MD Subnet rpt.		Fairfax NCAC / VA Dist. 2 ARES Primary Tactical Net Rptr.
145.430	DC ARES Secondary rpt.		
145.550	Packet, Shuttle/MIR	146.580	
145.730	Packet, Virginia state-wide, ARES/RACES/SKYWARN.	146.595	
145.750	Packet, Maryland state-wide, ARES/RACES tcp/ip, EOC network.		
145.790	APRS, area-wide 12 FM simplex ch. @ 15 khz. spacing, * used outside T-MARC as rptinput/output,	146.655 -	
146.415	Simplex* was Fx. Co. VA ARES Ch. 5 recommend reassignment to	146.790 -	

146.820 -	Winchester VA Dist. 1 ARES Primary-Skywarn Northern Shenendoah Subnet.	147.540 147.555 147.570	Simplex Laurel, MD local voice use. Simplex Greenbelt, MD local voice. Listed on bandplan as voice simplex but used in TMARC for packet.
146.910 -	Tysons Corner NCAC / VA Dist. 2 ARES Resource Net Rptr.	147.585	Simplex D.C. ARES six 20 khz. simplex channels.
146.955 -	Rockville Mont. Co. RACES Primary rptr.	223.400	Simplex
146.970 -	Manassas (PL100.0) - Prince Wm. Co., VA ARES Primary rptr.	223.420 223.440	Simplex Simplex
147.105 +	Davidsonville Eastern MD ARES/ RACES secondary rptr.	223.446 223.448	Simplex Simplex
147.165 +	Warrenton Fauquier ARES Primary rptr.	223.500	Nat'l Simplex. Limit ARES/RACES to net calls announcing working frequencies.
147.240 +	Woodbridge Prince William ARES Secondary rptr.	224.100-	Fairfax Linkable to 146.79 Tactical Net for NCAC ARES/RACES use.
147.300 +	Bluemont (PL146.2) NCAC Skywarn Primary - Dist. 1 Secondary rptr.	224.660-	Manassas Linked to 146.970, Prince William CO. ARES use.
147.360+	Washington, DC ARES Primary rptr. 12 FM simplex channels @ 15 khz. intervals.	224.940-	Rockville Linked to 146.955, Mont. Co. ARES use.
147.420	Simplex No NCAC ARES/RACES use, available for local simplex.	440.950	Fairfax Packet, 4FOAKS/WD4RPV-4/X1J4; VDEN backbone forwarding
147.435	Simplex Fx. Co., VA ARES Ch.2 - "NW" No. of Rt. 50 and W of I495.	445.925	Simplex Fairfax Co., VA ARES (was Ch.6, is now Ch. 5) command simplex and crossband-mobile link frequency.
147.450	Simplex Fauquier ARES Ch.2, KA7OGK Culpeper Net 2000 hrs. Thurs. (also used for NASA Audio retransmit).	445.950 445.975	Simplex Arlington Co., VA ARES. Simplex Laurel ARC, ARES/ RACES.
147.465	Simplex No NCAC ARES/RACES, available for local simplex.	446.000	Nat'l Simplex. Limit ARES/RACES use to net calls announcing working frequencies.
147.480	Simplex Carroll Co., MD ARES.	446.025	Simplex D.C. ARES
147.495	Simplex Fx. Co. ARES Ch.1 "NE" Inside I495 /Anne Arundel Co., ARES.	446.050	Simplex Alexandria ARES // VDEN Packet, KC4ASF Fredericksburg.
147.510	Simplex Montgomery Co., MD RACES Ch. 2.	446.075	Listed in band plan as simplex voice, but used in TMARC for packet.
147.525	Simplex Prince William Co., VA ARES.	447.025-	Tysons Corner (record. from 444.750, operational Oct. 1) Fairfax ARES.

Basic Skywarn Class

A Basic I Skywarn class near Annapolis MD has been scheduled for Wednesday, December 3, 1997 from 7 PM to 10 PM. To register, please call Melody Hall at (410) 222-8040.

GREEN MOUNTAIN REPEATER ASSN.



**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS TAKES
THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WISH ALL
GMRA MEMBERS, THE F.A.R AND
THE AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNITY
THE BEST OF SEASON GREETINGS
AND A MOST HAPPY AND HEALTHY
NEW YEAR!**



KD3VR/R
146.610 Cheverly, MD

K3GXF/R
146.880 Greenbelt, MD



Alexandria Radio Club

Meetings: Second Friday of each month, 7:30 PM at the Alexandria Fire Department Administrative Office (co-located with Fire Station #54), 900 Second St., Alexandria, VA
Nets: Every Thursday at 8:00 p.m. on 147.315 output / 147.915 input. (W4HFH repeater)

Web page: <http://members.aol.com/N4CWP/W4HFH.HTML> (or search on Yahoo: W4HFH or Alexandria Radio Club).

Information: Rich -KA4GFY, 703-644-3920.

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the shack, Not a sound was heard, not even an "aaaaccckk!"

The club members were nestled all snug in their shacks, With visions of new handhelds charging in racks,

Catalogs were hung by the chimneys with care, In hopes that new radios would soon be there.

Then out came the keyer, out came mic, To work the DX that comes on at night.

When up on the roof, there arose such a clatter, I thought my tri-bander had come down with a splatter.

From out of my chair I sprang with a flash, To check what it would cost me, in cold hard cash.

The moon on the tower and the new fallen snow, Gave the luster of daylight to the objects below,

When what to my wondering eyes did appear, But eight ARC members with pizza and beer.

And the man with the key, so often evident, I knew in an instant, it must be our club president.

More rapid than ever the late night QSOs came, And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by name;

Now Geral, now Harry, now Allen, now Chris, Now Rich, now Steve, now Rick and Charlie.

They knew the job at hand and went straight to work, Building a new station without even a quirk.

When they finished the job, they disappeared from sight, And I heard them exclaim, "Merry Christmas to All and To All a Good Night!!



Antietam Radio Association

Meetings: First and Third Tuesday of the month at 8 p.m. in the Conference Room at the Washington County Regional Airport, Showalter Road, Hagerstown, Maryland.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 52, Hagerstown, MD. 21741

Nets: Tuesday 7 p.m. 146.940 MHz.; Wednesday 7 p.m. 447.975 MHz.; Thursday 7 p.m. 147.090 MHz.

Repeaters: 147.09+ and 146.94 -.

Information: Donnie Sue Mulligan/KB3AOO (301) 582-2984

Hope hams everywhere had a scary but enjoyable Halloween, a very good and thankful Thanksgiving, and are looking forward to a very MERRY CHRISTMAS. This is a holiday season that brings everyone together.

We had our SET (Simulated Emergency Test) on October 4th. We had a simulated hurricane coming into our area (Washington County). We made a total of 191 points, with 26 stations, 6 amateurs participated that have had their license since 1994 (something new the Public Service in Newington, CT started this year), third-party traffic, communications on behalf of the Red Cross,

4 stations on emergency power, we used our two ARA Repeaters for emergency power operations, actively encouraged dual participation in ARES/RACES, liaison with the NTS Section Net, local agencies (the Emergency Management and the Red Cross), two communities (Washington County and the Regional Airport), and the Red Cross submitted a Press Release. Thanks go to Bob Long/KD3JK and Charlie Anderson/NF3X for all the things they did and thanks to all the other 24 people that participated in the SET.

October 19th, Sunday afternoon, the ARA communicate-d for the SACA (Smithsburg Area Churches Association) CROPWALK. Rev. Mauck told me and several of the members of the ARA how much he appreciated what we did and what we have done for the HUNGRY. I was Net Control, this being my second year as NC; I had a wonderful time talking to our many members, asking Rev. Mauck and other members of churches quite a few questions, and talking to the walkers as they came back to the park. One man walked/ran the route twice. He said the second time he made it with six more minutes than it took the first time. It was a beautiful day for walkers, not too cool and not too warm, just right.

The Maryland/DC QSO Party was discussed at our meeting on October 21. Page Pyne/WA3EOP was at the Foundation for Amateur Radio Club meeting and gave out certificates and plaques. The QSO PARTY is becoming well-known as well as popular!

Congratulations to the ones that passed and/or upgraded at the tests on Sunday afternoon, October 26, at Hagerstown Junior College. To the ones that tried, just keep going back for the tests. Our Secretary/Treasurer resigned from her position at the last meeting. Amanda Daywalt/N3TVD is going to some classes on Tuesday nights and will not be at our meetings very often. She wants to keep doing some things but just could not go to school and be at meetings. Amanda, I will miss you but I hope you do well in class...make us proud!

Until next year...73, Donnie Sue/KB3A00



Arlington Amateur Radio Club

Meeting: Third Tuesday of each month, 7:30 P.M., Red Cross building, 4333 Arlington Blvd., Arlington, VA. Nonmembers welcome!

Net: Tuesdays (except meeting nights), 7:30 P.M., 144.87/145.47 Mhz FM.

Information: Mike Callaham, NW3V @ WA3TAI, callaham@tmn.com, (703) 241-5618.

WWW: <http://www.geocities.com/CapeCanaveral/Lab/4306/>

October Meeting - Oct. 21, 1997

Vice President Dennis-W4PWF called the meeting to order at 1938L and presided. President Mike-NW3V served as Acting Secretary. Present were members: Mike-NW3V, Dennis-W4PWF, George-KR4MU, Mike-KA8OPJ, Tom-N4BYF, and visitor Bob Lennox-KE4KLA.

The Minutes of the September meeting were approved as published in the October 1997 issue of the Arlington Beacon, except George-KR4MU should have been listed as one of the attendees. (How could he have reported on the FAR meeting had he been absent?)

Members and visitor Bob-KE4KLA introduced themselves. Bob is a locksmith and gunsmith who was invited by Joe-KJ4S. Bob wants to increase his Morse speed and upgrade. Welcome, Bob! Treasurer Tom-N4BYF presented his financial report.

Old Business

Field Day: QST, November 1997, p. 106, noted that Arlington ARC station W4WVP placed second in class 4D, but Dennis-W4PWF noted that our bonus points were not included. Dennis volunteered to inquire at ARRL HQ and report

back. [P.S.: Dennis reported that ARRL HQ explained that bonus points do not contribute to class D rank. Because W4WVP is a club station, we could have competed as a class A station, even though we did not use emergency power, but we would have ranked lower in class 4A, even with our bonus points.]

New Business

KT4EL/MM: Tom-N4BYF reported that Secretary Walt-KT4EL was Maritime Mobile, single-handing his sailboat toward the Caribbean, and had reached Jacksonville, FL. Enroute, Walt checked in to the Blue Ridge Runners Net twice a week. His boat's engine mount had developed problems, and Walt was considering hopping a military flight back to Andrews AFB, on a "space available" basis, to secure needed parts.

Red Cross emergency generator test: Tom-N4BYF reported that Walt-KT4EL and he had planned a weekend test of the Arlington Chapter's emergency generator, thinking that this wouldn't interfere with Chapter operations. However, Chapter officials, when contacted, said that they preferred the test to be done during normal business hours. Tom said that the test, which would require asking Red Cross employees to add load by degrees, would require at least two AARC volunteers—i.e., himself and one more.

Disposal of donated material: Tom-N4BYF noted that Bob Lamont, a Red Cross volunteer, had donated some electronic equipment and magazines (QST and Popular Electronics) to the AARC, and it was in the W4WVP shack for appropriation by members. [At the end of the meeting, a few bags of QST and Popular Electronics were taken home. The rest will also need to find homes.]

Disposal of W4WVP's Tandy 1000SE: Whereas Dennis-W4PWF had recently donated a PC-AT clone to the club, Tom-N4BYF moved, Mike-NW3V seconded, and members present approved a motion to donate the club's Tandy 1000SE PC-XT clone to George-KR4MU, the club's preeminent NTS and SkyWarn volunteer.

If George adds a monitor and BayCom-type modem (or TNC), he will have a packet radio capability to use for NTS, SkyWarn, and other purposes. [George took possession of the Tandy 1000SE and keyboard at the meeting's end.]

FAR meeting: George-KR4MU, one of the club's FAR representatives, reported that, "thank goodness," FAR had (again) obtained use of the Gaithersburg Fairgrounds for the FARFest, which is scheduled for September 13.

Dennis-W4PWF adjourned the meeting at 2000L, so that the planned program, "Antenna Stories," could begin.

Antenna Tales

Tom-N4BYF exhibited the ELPA 3/65 Eyring Low-Profile Antenna that had been donated to the club by Jim-AB4YP, and reported that Bill-W3ERG and he (Tom) had tried it out, using tomato stakes to support it. Tom said that it worked "OK." George-KR4MU described preparations for a HeliX-fed (!) 75-m dipole for SkyWarn use at the NWS Sterling site. Bob-KE4KLA asked about the use of discone antennas for amateur radio. The Mikes-NW3V and -KA8OPJ contributed views on this topic.

Mike-NW3V exhibited a copy of the ARRL Antenna Book, 16th edition, commending it very highly. Mike also, using a notebook computer, demonstrated MiniNEC3 (Minicomputer Numerical Electromagnetic Code, version 3) for DOS, by calculating the near-field field strengths around a dipole in free space. Mike noted that such a tool could be used to comply with the FCC RF exposure survey requirements (which will affect Amateur Radio Service stations in 1998) by estimating near-field RF electromagnetic (RFEM) fields. MiniNEC3 is more commonly used to calculate antenna radiation (far-field) patterns. Someone asked whether MiniNEC wasn't included, along with other software, in the latest ARRL Antenna Book. Mike said he didn't know. Dennis-W4PWF, said he thought that it was.

73, Mike-NW3V



Baltimore Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: Meetings: Twice monthly, 7:30 pm at Dulaney High School, 225 E Padonia Rd, shop #3... (June through Sept 97). -First

Wednesday of the month -business meeting,
Third Wednesday of the month - program.

Repeaters: W3FT/RPTR 146.67(-), 224.24 (-) (no PL) and 449.625(-)(PL 107.2) Note: two meter/220 Mhz. repeaters are linked.

Club Net: Every Tuesday night at 8:30 pm on 146.67/224.24.

NTS Net: Daily at 6:30 pm on 146.670/224.240

Club BBS: (410) 252-6238 (min. 2400 baud)

Information: (410) HAMTALK

Greater Baltimore Hamboree & Computerfest/Maryland State ARRL Convention information: (410) HAM-FEST or (800) HAM-FEST.

Club Address: BARC, Inc., P.O. BOX 120, Reisterstown MD 21136

JOTA

BARC was in the great outdoors for the Boy Scouts Jamboree of the Air (JOTA) on October 17. Three of us camped out in the rain on that Friday night. N3YHC, Tom, coordinated the event, and is now known as "the drowned rat". The tent he shared with AA3LN, Lee, collapsed under the weight of the rain just moments after they got out of it in the morning.

The day was great after it stopped raining. JOTA was one stop among 16 the scouts made. They received points for participation at each stop, and they ranked the stops. Ham Radio came out on the top of the list. Every scout had a chance to talk on the air. Some were on HF, many had there chance on 2 meters, where contacts were much more plentiful, and competition not as fierce. The best time came when we found a repeater on the eastern shore where another scout group was working, so they could work scout to scout.

The surprising question to many of us was the confusion the general public has between ham radio and Citizen's Band. After a 20 minute visit with us, that confusion was ended for everyone. Besides those noted above, N3YFK-Jo, N3ZBN-Marty, N3VEJ-Doug, N3XPK-Robin, N3WKE-Rusty & N3WD-Bill participated in the demos. I had great fun providing the food for Friday night and Saturday morning.

BARC is 50 YEARS OLD

N3WD, Bill, reports that many QSL cards have been received from our special event station operation on September 27. Certificates and return QSL's are being prepared.

GREATER BALTIMORE HAMBOREE & COMPUTERFEST

<http://www.gbhc.org> is up. Many thanks to Bryan, N3OZT for arranging the domain name and host. The mailings of flyers to our bulk mailing list is planned for December.

Indoor tailgating space will be by advance sale only and the GBHC committee expects to pre-sell much of the tailgating space outdoors as well. Make your plans early for March 28-29, 1998.

W3BGX-SK

It is with great sadness that we report the untimely death of Nelson Ross, W3BGX. Nelson has been the treasurer of BARC for the last several years and brought great organization to the club finances. A year ago, he took on the operation of the BARC BBS, also. His talents, friendship and smile will be missed.

SKYWARN

There will be a Skywarn Basic Spotters Class I on December 3 from 7 to 10 PM in the Annapolis area. Information and registration is available by

calling 410-222-8040. The NWS-Sterling web page for other classes is <http://tgsv5.nws.noaa.gov/er/lwx/class.htm>

TRAINING CLASS

BARC will be providing an instructor for the adult education program at Cockeysville Middle School. The class begins on February 23, and runs eight weeks. Exams will be offered the week after the class is over. Contact information for the school will be provided next month.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY GATHERING

The annual BARC holiday party will be held on December 17 at the same place as last year, the American Legion hall in Towson. Cocktails at 6 and dinner at 7. Pay attention to the article in the Modulator and information on the club net on Tuesday night for your tickets. We don't want to leave anyone out!

73 for now, de N3VEJ, Doug



Capital City Amateur Radio Society

Meetings: 3rd Saturday of each month at 1200 hours at the Woodridge Public Library, 18th and Rhode Island Ave, N.E., Washington, D.C. Visitors welcome.

Repeater: W3EIL 144.51/145.11 MHz, open.

Nets: Regular net Wednesday at 2000 hrs, RTTY net Thursdays 2100 hrs, voice portion 2145 hrs, all on 145.110.

Mailing Address: CCARS, 1719 Franklin Street, N.E. Washington, DC 20018-2033.

Information: Steve, W3ETX, (202) 526-1329 or Chester, W3EIL (202) 529-9598, Joe K3UAL (301) 773-5074 EMail K3UAL@Juno.com.

CCARS NETS: open 2 meter Net weekly every Wednesday night at 2000 hours local time. All

licensed Amateur Radio Operators are invited to check-in on 145.11. ARRL bulletins, propagation information, and current amateur radio news is announced. Other features of the net are a Technical Question and Trivia Question section. Each check-in has an opportunity in the QSO portion to express views and comments of their own. The net is concluded with a swap and sell section. Fixed and mobile stations are welcomed.

All are invited to join the RTTY Net on Thursdays at 2100 hours. After the RTTY portion there is a voice portion, to discuss information and problems involving the operation of the net, all nets meet on 145.11 Mhz.



Central Maryland Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: 4th Friday of the month at 7:30pm, at the Doctors Community Hospital, 8118 Good Luck Road, Lanham, MD (no meeting in December). Enter in the Outpatient Testing entrance across from the Emergency Room entrance behind the main building. Take the elevator to the 5th floor and exit left, the meeting room (DSE Room) is on the right.

Repeater: N3EZD/R 145.230 Mhz. Users must transmit a 110.9 Hz CTCSS Tone for full area coverage. No tone necessary for local coverage.

Net: Every Tuesday, 9:30pm, 145.230 MHz repeater.

Mailing Address: Central Maryland Amateur Radio Club, P. O. Box 788, Greenbelt, MD 20768-0788.

Information: Jim Tilton, Pres. - KD3JA, (301) 552-0012.)

Web Page: <http://www.erols.com/jctilton/cmarc/>.

CMARC members NV3G, N3BXW, W3VP and N3VPV gave 2-meter FM and HF SSB and CW demonstrations at the Boy Scout Camporee

held at Camp Barrett, Anne Arundel County on October 18. Despite the damp and muddy conditions, a large number of Scouts participated. Scouts ask questions about Ham Radio via 2-meter FM simplex, talked with other Scouts over HF SSB as far away as Florida, and tried their hand at sending Morse Code.

Elections were held at the October club meeting. The following officers were elected:

President: Jim/KD3JA
Vice-President: Roger/W3VP
Secretary: Tom/N3BXW
Treasurer: Tony/N3JWT

The CMARC Holiday party will be held at Three Brothers Pizza in Riverdale on Saturday, December 20 at 6 pm. Featured will be a "Chinese Auction" gift exchange.

73 de Jim/KD3JA



Dulles Amateur Radio Group

On-the-air meeting: Tuesdays at 8:00pm on the Dulles repeater Repeater: N4FSC, 145.310- (near Dulles airport)

Mail: Dulles Amateur Radio Group, P.O. Box 5073, Herndon, VA 20172-1964

Home Page: <http://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/Way/8873>

Email: dulles_arg@geocities.com

Club callsign: W4DLS

Information: Mike Webber, WB8RDN, 703-450-2304.

The Dulles Amateur Radio Group (DARG) is a family-oriented ham radio club affiliated with the N4FSC repeater in Dulles, VA. Membership is open to all, and the club holds several social and operating events each year. Dues are \$20/yr for your entire family; members have access to the repeater's autopatch, and dues include a 1 year

subscription or renewal to AutoCall. All area hams are warmly invited to join our information net on Tuesday evenings at 8:00 pm on the N4FSC repeater, 145.310-.

The Loudoun Hospital Patient Move Day supported by DARG and SPARC went off without a hitch on 18 October. Months of planning paid off and amateur radio provided significant support for this effort. [A separate article about the project is published elsewhere in this issue of Autocall.]

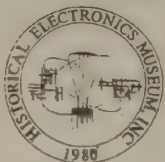
The following amateurs who participated in the overall project should be commended: John KC3BM, Mike KD4ITN, Mark KR4FH, Bill W3EMH, Elena KD4DEI, Jeff KR4YS, Shirley N4STM, Pat N4AYV, Mike N4FXP, Tom KB2BCG, Brad KD4ITM, David KE4KGN, David KE4OKY, Norm KD4LTH, Lee KE4JEN, Tom WB8ZRP, Barbara KA8FUI, Ken K4EVH, Patti Cruz (no call yet), Cathy KA3QPU, Don WA4AVU, David KD4YIJ, Dean KE4JEQ, John W3GX, Janet KF4BTJ, Steve KA1LM, Jim KD4GSX, Tom KD4GSY, Dana W4DFK, Chris WA1ZXX, Bill KS4II, Ray KD4RSL, Bill N4WJN, Mike N4PDY, Larry KD4HAS, Louis N4KWP, Chris N4PBI, Sylvia N4RNH, Gary KD4SRX, Bill W1HRE, John WB4YMT, Craig N4FSC, Mike WB8RDN and Marcia KD4ITP.

A DARG sponsored ARRL/VEC exam session was held on 15 November. Many students from the Loudoun Amateur Radio Group's class were tested at this exams session.

Upcoming DARG events include the 13 December annual DARG Holiday Party, raffle and public service recognition ceremony. Please mark your calendars and check into the Tuesday 8 PM DARG Net for more details.

DARG has a brand new club callsign. Listen for W4DLS (DLS for Dulles) at upcoming public service events in the Dulles area of Northern Virginia.

73, de Mike, N4PDY



Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month, 5:30 PM, In the Historical Electronics Museum, West Nursery Road and Elkridge Landing Roads. Linthicum, Maryland (Next to BWI Marriott Hotel).

Club Station: W3GR.

Info: Herman Turner, WK3P (410) 647-4178.

Mail: P.O. Box 746, Mail Stop 4015, Baltimore, MD 21203.

Street address: 1745 W. Nursery Rd., Linthicum, MD 21090.

with 3 students. Rol Anders, K3RA is well along with 8 students in his upgrade to General Class.

73 de Chip, W4PBG



Kent Island Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: First Sunday of the Month, 7:30pm at Terrapin Park Maintenance Bldg.

Repeater: 146.94 output V146.34 input

Information: Glenn, WN3G, 410-643-1125; Tom, K30RC, 410-643-4675; Bill, N3VEZ, 643-5974

The highlight of the October meeting was the talk on ARRL and Amateur Radio by Kay Craigie, WT3P, our ARRL Atlantic Division Director. Kay did a fine job of putting amateur radio today in perspective with our past. Following the talk Kay conducted a very lively and interesting question and answer session. HEMARC also had the pleasure of the always welcome presence of Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC, our ARRL VP.

Birthday of the Electron Celebration

HEMARC operated W3GR for the benefit of all those who attended the Museum's celebration of the "Birthday of the Electron" 100 years ago.

RTTY at W3GR is on the way. Rol Anders, K3RA is coming down the home stretch to integrate the RTTY equipment into the station. The BC-610 transmitter is now providing 300 Watts to a dummy load and testing for proper operation is in progress. It looks very favorable thanks to the efforts of Chuck Angel, AA3FB and his support team.

Training Programs

Ray Robley, KD3KK and Heru Wamsley, W3WVV have begun the Hands On Elmering class

As of October our Repeater Controller is down for repairs and reprogramming. We expect to be back in business soon. We would like to hold an Islands on The Air Special Event in the spring in addition to our Hamfest (held jointly this past May with AARC) so anyone interested please let us know.



Laurel Amateur Radio Club

A Volunteer Examiner
Coordinator

Meetings: 4th Wednesday of each month (except November & December) 7:30pm at 384 Main Street, Laurel Md.

Social: 2nd Wednesday of each month, except December (Call for directions).

Nets: 1st & 3rd & 5th Wednesdays, 8:30pm, on 147.225+, no tone.

Mail: P. O. Box 3039, Laurel, MD 20709-0039

Exams: 3rd Saturday of each month, to pre-register contact: John/WB3GXW (301) 572-5124 after 6 P.M.

Information: Mark/N3NTQ (301) 572-2385 or Roger/W3LM (301) 776-6961.

Web Site: <http://www.webtrek.com/~laurel/org/larc>. E-mail: laurel@webtrek.com

October has been a busy month for the Laurel club. We began on Sat the fourth with a turnout to help with communications for the 2nd annual Riverfest Festival held along the Patuxent River. The festival featured food vendors and adjudicated crafters set up in the parkland along the river. We set up a net control station that doubled as a station to participate in the SET that was being held on that day. We sent and received traffic as PG County SET participants. It was a long day, but the weather was beautiful. If you haven't taken a stroll along the paved pathway in the parkland by the river, you should.

On the following day some of the club members helped out with the CWS/CROP Walk. This is a 5 km walk to raise money for the hungry and is done in many communities throughout the country. There were 40+ walkers and we kept an eye on them as they hiked along the city of Laurel's highways and byways.

Our final business meeting of the year was held at the Historical Electronics Museum in Linthicum. Heru Walmsley/W3WVV gave us a guided tour with some excellent commentary on the equipment displayed there. Our elections for new officers were held with John/N3GXA (our newsletter editor for many years) being elected President. Jerry/N3WSG was elected Vice-president. Mark/N3NTQ (our current President) was elected Secretary and will become our new newsletter editor. Patti/N3OYN will be staying on as Treasurer. Dan/KA8YPY was elected to be a FAR representative. They will be sworn in at our club banquet on December 7, 4:00 p.m. at the Timbuktu Restaurant in Jessup.

On October 25, we held a workshop for club members and interested friends to build dual band J-Pole antennas. The antennas covered the 2M and 440 Mhz bands and were made from copper tubing. We had a good turnout with many antennas fabricated at the club station, which is the place of business of Mike/WB3HUP. Thanks to all who helped out and who participated and Mike for the use of his space and tools.

The Novice/Tech class remains strong with 20+ attendees every Monday night at the clubhouse at 384 Main Street in Laurel. On Monday night, November 24, at 7:00 p.m. we will be holding a full blown test session for the class members or anyone who is interested in testing.

73 de Jim/WI3N



The Maryland Apple Dumpling Radio Amateur Society, Inc.

Meetings: 2nd and 4th Thursdays - 7:00 P.M.
St. Paul's Church, 10401 Armory Avenue,
Kensington, Maryland 20895.

Clubhouse: MADRAS Clubhouse, 11800
Coakley Circle, Rockville, MD 20852

Nets: 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 9:00 P.M. on
145.45 MHz (PL-5A).

Repeaters: 444.100/449.100 MHz (PL-2A),
145.45/144.85 MHz (PL-5A).

WWW Address: <http://mvhsl.mbhs.edu/~fwright/MADRAS.html>

Mailing: P. O. Box 2468, Wheaton, MD 20902

Information: Leo Boberschmidt KA3TGY
(301)946-3738, Jean Blacik N3PLC (301)
984-6114.

As we all eagerly awaited the arrival of the November QST Magazine, it finally arrived in our mail last week, showing the results of Field Day '97. How exciting it was to see that MADRAS finished first in the MDC 3A Section again this year, plus ended up, overall, in the upper 10% group. When you see the results in print it really seems to make it all worth while. Our little group worked very hard for all those points and had lots of fun over that 24-hour period. Congratulations, one and all, for a job well done.

October is election of new officers for the MADRAS club. Our new officers for the 1997-1998 year are:

President: Leo Boberschmidt KA3TGY
 Vice-President: Irv McWherter N3LDY
 Co-Secretaries: Jean Blacik N3PLC & Sandy McWherter N3TQE
 Treasurer: Lenny Schacter N3RPQ
 Parliamentarian: Bob Price N3NNQ
 Sargeant-At-Arms: Arley Wright WB9GPO
 FAR Representative: Lenny Schacter N3RPQ
 T-MARC Representative: Larry Ziecheck N3GKZ

Congratulations to the youngest member of our club, Frank Wright N30QB, who will be receiving the Baltimore Amateur Radio Club Scholarship for \$1,000 again this year. Frank is a sophomore at Harvard University and we are all very proud of his academic achievements. Frank's parents, Arley WB9GPO and Fran KA90RU, are very active in the club, as is Frank, when he is home for vacations. The December Holiday Season is upon us once more and as usual we will have no meetings this month. We hope to see as many of you as possible at our Christmas Dinner this year.

Happy Holidays. 73 Jean N3PLC



The Maryland Mobileers Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: First Friday of each month at the AA Co. EOC, Crownsville State Hospital grounds Crownsville, Md.

Repeaters: W3CU (PL 107.2) - 146.805 & 449.125 both in Millersville, Md. W3VPR - 442.3 in Annapolis - Joint usage AARC.

Social Breakfasts: 15 days (3 Saturdays) after club mtg, at Rick's Cafe in Odenton at 9 AM.

Mailing: MMARC, P.O. Box 935, Severn, Md. 21144

Nets: 2-Meter on 146.805 @20:30 local time every Monday, 10-Meter CW practice net @19:00 Monday on 28.230 MHz.

Information: Brian Fitzpatrick, N3QXW (President). Bill Ziegler KA6TYY (410) 987-2384 (e-mail: Zzziggy@aol.com).

Web: <http://www.erols.com/wb3v/mmARC/>

Greeting to all from the Mobileers!

NEW BOD

Where has 1997 gone?? It's hard to believe that another year has escaped us. In the October meeting the Mobileers elected the 1998 Board of Directors. They are:

President - Bill Ziegler/KA6TYY
 Vice - Frank Winner/N3SEO
 Treasurer - Rick Cooper/N3BUT
 Secretary - Russ Slye/N3GT
 Director - Tom Ostrosky/W3NI

We wish the 1998 BOD the best in keeping the torch burning and promoting the general welfare of amateur radio. We would like to thank the outgoing BOD:

President - Brian Fitzpatrick/N3QXW
 Vice - Bill Ziegler/KA6TYY
 Treasurer - Joe McLaughlin/KE3YR
 Secretary - Russ Slye/N3GT
 Director - John Kohl/KO4A

Thanks guys for the hard work and dedication during the past year. Your sound leadership helped nurture many hams and provided a path for the 1998 BOD to follow!

PETS ON WHEELS

September 28th, Rick/N3BUT organized support for the Pets On Wheels Walk-A-Thon on the B&A Trail between Marley Station Mall and Jumpers Theaters. Russ/N3GT, John/N3BTM and Tom/W3NI were bicycle mobiles. Sam/N3YPI took up fixed position at Hammock Lane and Anne/N3YJQ and Jerri/N3MDA took up positions at the turnaround point at Marley Mall. Rick assumed the position of Net Control. Since the entire route was only 1.5 miles, one-way, simplex worked out well. The event turned out to be fairly quiet with only a few items of debris on the trail being the biggest concern of the event. But the ham's presence were appreciated by all knowing any problems would have been immediately

communicated to net control. The event coordinator reported that several walkers had commented that they were "comforted by the presence of our cyclists with radios" as they walked this lonely section of the trail. Good job Rick and the gang!

MMARC HOLIDAY PARTY

The MMARC Holiday Party will be held on December 5th. at the TIMBUKTU Restaurant starting at 7 p.m. Bob/AF3D and Bonnie/WA3UMV once again have taken on the year-long preparation to make it the dinner of the year!!! Their table decorations and quick wit have become a legend in the MMARC Archives!! If you are interested please contact me by 1 December.

That's it for this month. Please note our club meeting, breakfast and net times. We would be happy to meet you and share some good "Ham stories"!! Don't Hesitate to use our repeater if you are in the area.

73, Bill/KA6TYT



The Mid-Atlantic DX and Repeater Association

Meetings: Second Thursday of each month, rotating locations among Hagerstown MD, Frederick MD, Martinsburg WV and Greencastle PA.

Net: Tuesday evenings at 1930 local on 147.06.

4 State 10M net: Wednesdays at 2000 local on 28.315.

Repeaters: Frederick MD: 147.06, 224.20, 448.125; Martinsburg WV: 147.345.

Mailing: 230 North Potomac St., Suite 2A, Hagerstown MD 21740

Information: Voice BBS 301-416-8447 (info Box 112) LandLine BBS (301) 416-8435

As the end of October rolled around, we found that our members had gone many different

directions during the month. The busiest period centered on October 4-5. Here we had a crew of at least 7 at all times in place at the Brunswick Railroad Days Festival.

From 0800 to 1530 each day, MADRA volunteers provided public safety communications to augment the overloaded nets of the city's police, fire, ambulance and administrative services. As in the past, volunteers were asked to serve two-hour tours of duty at net control or following city officials. We had many who came in the cool of early morning and hung in there for half a day or a full day of communications support. We're assured by the Mayor, City Administrator and the Special Events Coordinator that our work on their behalf is sincerely appreciated.

The second Thursday of each month is the occasion for our dinner meeting. In October the gang met at Frederick's Red, Hot and Blue Restaurant for ribs, drafts and the usual ration of good fellowship. Since this is appearing in the December issue, what you need to know is the location of that month's meeting and I can't tell you as of this writing. Please check in on our 2M or 10M nets to get a prediction of the location.

The date for the dinner meeting is certainly December 4, unless it isn't. The "isn't" possibility is included here only because we sometimes reschedule the December meeting and replace it with a Grand Holiday Banquet. That might happen again this year, so be sure to participate in the MADRA Club phone nets and/or read your MADRA bulletins so you get to attend the December dinner, where/when-ever it might take place.

As for other things that are happening, let's see...Well, the Frederick area's 440 repeater was on the bench as this was written, but was widely believed to be ready for re-installation. The antenna system for that repeater is in good shape. The 2M repeater was up, but running at very reduced power. A good amplifier was ready for installation at the Frederick site (147.06+) but problems in recovering from theft or vandalism had that repeater's antenna

system well below its optimum strength.

MADRA continues to sponsor VE testing twice a month. First Thursdays it happens at Martinsburg WV and third Saturdays at Smithsburg MD. Each session depends on having enough signed-up examinees to be held, so be sure to use the BBS phone numbers in our masthead or register by e-mail at <VETeam@aol.com>.

As for MADRA Club nets, don't forget that they've returned to the EST schedule. Helping members to take advantage of Daylight Savings Time we had delayed net start by one-half hour from the Standard Time sked. The clocks changed back at the end of October, so did our nets, and (we hope) so did you.

Best Wishes for Happy Holidays and all good success in 1998.

73 DE N2CSQ/3



Montgomery Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 7:30 p.m., Executive Office Bldg, Montgomery Co. Govt Center, 101 Monroe St, Rockville. Park in underground lot G-2.

Repeaters: 146.955 (-600) & 442.750 (PL 156.7) in Rockville.

Club Net: Every Sunday night at 7:30 PM, on the MARC repeater.

Internet: <http://www.dsport.com/marc/>

Mail: MARC, P.O. Box 611, Gaithersburg, MD 20884-0611

Information: Jeff - KZ3F (301) 258-0112

Training: Ms. Rocky Jones (301) 216-5210

1997 - Year in Review

Greetings, and welcome to the December issue of the MARC page. It is hard to believe that

another year has passed, but what a year it has been! 1997 has been a prosperous year for the club.

We celebrated our 30th anniversary as an ARRL Chartered Club and became an ARRL

Special Service Club (SSC) in the process. It is an honor to be recognized for our years of service to the League and our community. The next 30 years will be easy!

MARC and QST

If you looked closely at the November issue of QST, you should see some familiar faces. Yes, Liz Becker-N3WCI and her younger brother Kevin made MARC headlines with a QST photo insert from the MARC Field Day.

Liz comes from a long line of hams in the Becker family. Her father Farrel-N3PPR and her mother Gina-N3PPQ have lead the way. Kevin is just a few years away from making the grand-slam for the family.

MARC Elections

The MARC Club would like to greet the new slate of Officers for 1997. They are:

Pres, Laura Galiszuski-N3VOL

VP, Jay Lubliner-KA3ZMW

Sec, Eric Reinhold-N3NFS

Treas, Peggy Kelly-N3PPG

Directors at Large-

Harry Goldman-N3SRR

Bob Oakley-KD3M

Larry Gasch-W3SFY

Stan Staten-W3INK

Bruce Shanks-N8XTX

We wish them success in the upcoming new year as they take office this month.

73, and have a happy and safe holiday season.

Al, NW2M



National Capital ARES Council

Amateur Radio Survives Marine Corps Marathon 1997!!!

The Marine Corps Marathon is one of the nation's largest Marathons each year and despite the cold rain and wind Sunday, 18,000 participants ran.

If ever there was evidence of "Murphy's Law", this was it. We started out the day with enough volunteers to fill assignments and a head start on setup by erecting antennas at the Command tent the day before. Volunteers assigned to locations on the course were checking in at the Pentagon, picking up lunch, shirts and supplies.

After gaining access to the Finish Line area, we discovered that the tent we had been directed to use was not our tent, in fact there was NO tent for us. After securing another available tent, all pre-positioned equipment was torn down and moved (with the help of a few unoccupied Marines) to our new location. Net Control for the Race & Medical Nets began operating from a park bench while our work site was set up in the tent. Fortunately it wasn't raining—YET!

Despite advanced testing, one of our primary repeaters was discovered to have gone down and the secondary had an interference problem so a move to a third repeater became necessary. Our first customer of the day, a spectator who suffered a heart attack, was our only fatality.

Just before the race began, the rain started. Light at first, it became steady and heavy. As cold and miserable as we all were, we could not help but marvel at the runners.

Doing our best to get medical assistance or just a ride back to the starting line for runners, radio

traffic was at the least steady and often heavy.

We had several new hams and some veterans who were venturing into public service for the first time. Volunteers came from DC and places in Maryland and Virginia I've never heard of! We had operators on bikes—several of which were from Amateur Radio Explorer Post 80 from Alexandria. They transferred supplies to our own digital network and carried medical supplies between stations when vehicles could not get through. "Shadow" operators with Navy Medical personnel kept them informed and sometimes offered suggestions and solutions to logistical problems. It was the worst weather I've ever seen for a Marine Corps Marathon and I've seen a few. A more rigorous test of our capabilities would be difficult to devise! Amateur radio demonstrated a flexibility and resilience beyond compare!

I'd like to list all those who volunteered and thank them heartily for THEIR SUPPORT and DEDICATION. I know I speak for the Navy Medical Staff and Marine Corps when I say, well done and we could not have done it without you!!! WE CANNOT THANK YOU ENOUGH!!!

The greatest testimony comes from a runner who stopped long enough to say "thanks for being there for us!"

Administration, Check-in & Command: Joey Eversole N3EQL, Alan Bosch KD4FRK, Jim Bryant KF4RUR, Mike Reese KE4PKM, Harry Jones N4CWP, Rip Smith KC3H, Dick Harman WA4USB, Lenny Schachter N3RPQ, Steve Cruse NP2IL, Frank Mackey K4EC, Jeff McWhirt KC4RON (who directed set up of Net Control, TWICE!), Ann Wimmers KD4KCT, Michael Wimmers, Karen Bunn, Byron Sykes KE4LVP; Packet/Digital: Bernie Wimmers KC4YMP, Don Mahan KD4WGV, Stan Sulak KD4YEP, Jack Anderson K4ULS, Mike Rhodes KD4LQS, Mike Carter N3PDK, Ed Harris KE4SKY, Kent Larson KD4SJJ, Ben Gelb KF4KJQ, Ken Pease N3JEY, John Kohl KO4A, Mac McNeeley WN3C, Steve Schneider K3IZ; Aid Stations: Rick Bunn

N4ASX, N5MUR, Bob Busch WB3KXJ, Phill Schroeder KF4AJZ, Bill Stewart KE4BAE, Marry Morris N4TCI, John Bartone KE4VIH;

Fixed Position on the Course: Joe Sylvester KD2RO, Richard Harman KF4POK, Dave Phillips KE4TZ, Rich Adamy KA4GFY, Paul Brown KD4UPD, Ralph Johnson WB0JKV, BJ Robey KE4JPA, Eric Gammeter N8AAY, Bill Reinhart N3TCR, Beth Partridge KE4BUM, Tony Brooks N3MIO, Jim Coleman AA3CD, Dale Kloes N7KWD, Lisa Varga KF4MBB, Guy Josehans N3YBI, Cyrus Parker N3EPH, Robin Bryant KS4OSQ, Dennis Hinz W3FAY, Burl Hickman KC5TLC, Luis Villalobos KP4ZX, Jim Lehnert N3CII, Kathy Whalen AE4UM, Erv Whalen KT4DS, Bill Kamm KC4VXH, Eric Bellot KF4SMY, Jim Hartsell KF4JQE, Bob Dooley KK4GB, Matt Stoltz KF4QQQ, Woody Stewart KF4SMZ, George Saunders KR4MU.

Dale Kloes, N7KWD from Mt Vernon, Washington (the state of Washington, that is) happened to be at Mt Weather for FEMA training and offered to volunteer. The weather made him feel right at home and he has invited us to come to Washington for the Seattle Marathon the weekend before Thanksgiving. Not this year, Dale. Maybe next year....

Speaking of next year, we are planning to add a special event station (this year we had a special event callsign—N4M. Those who'd like to volunteer but aren't able to be on the course, this is your chance! Anyone who still has a vest or has not received a tee-shirt, please contact me at jrexroad@aol.com or (703)971-0384.

NEXT NCAC ARES INSTITUTE IS SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 10 AT BETHESDA NAVAL HOSPITAL. CALL (703)359-3414 FOR INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION.

Jeanne Rexroad, N4ZGI

DEC, National Capital District

Chairperson, National Capital ARES Council



National Capitol DX Association

Meetings: Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct and Dec. at a member's home. Contact the Secretary (Rick Murphy, K1MU) for details.

On-the-air: Every Sunday at 8:30 PM on the 147.000 repeater. All are welcome!

Information: Rick Murphy-K1MU (703) 280-2637 or Leo Boberschmidt-KA3TGY (301) 946-3738.

The October meeting was held on the 18th at the home of Rick [K1MU] and Diane Murphy in Annandale, Virginia. Our sincere thanks to Rick and Diane for hosting this meeting. This was the meeting for the annual election of club officers. The following were re-elected for the 97/98 term:

President: Leo Boberschmidt, KA3TGY

Vice President: Erinn Tordella, N3HSA

Secretary: Rick Murphy, K1MU

Treasurer: Henry Herman, W3UJ

NCDXA member David Collingham, K3LP, will be joined by PVRC member Rich Boyd, KE3Q, in the United Arab Emirates. They will both be in Dubai from 22 November until 2 December. Plans are to help Ali, A61AJ, finish off his antenna farm and then operate the CQ World Wide CW DX Contest. They will be operating before and after the contest mostly on CW on the low bands. After the operation from the U.A.E they plan to fly to Muscat, Oman (A4) to be active there from 2 to 5 December. Propagation is definitely improving. As I write this, the CQWW contest is just over and the bands were in good shape despite an A-Index of 16-17. There was even good propagation on 10 meters of the Sunday of the contest. Looking for DX on 10 meters? Don't forget the 10 Meter Contest the weekend of 13-14 December. See how much DX you can work that weekend.

December Meeting: Our next meeting will be on Saturday, December 20th, at the home of Dave

(WC4B), Marlene (KB4FAS), and Susan Hammond in Oakton, Virginia. We hope to have a good turn out for this meeting. As always, guests are welcome at the NCDXA meetings. If you know of any DXers visiting our area, be sure to invite them to the meeting.

On-The-Air Meeting: I would like to remind everyone of our On-The-Air Meetings each and every Sunday night at 8:30 PM local time on the 147.000 repeater. Since NCDXA in-person meetings are held only every other month, this is a great opportunity to stay in touch with club members. Stop by and let us know what has been happening. We discuss DX activities, QSL routes, and other DX related matters. The On-The-Air Meetings are open to all; so, if you are interested in DXing, stop by on Sunday evenings.

Wishing all a happy holiday season & good DXing. de Leo, KA3TGY [leob@erols.com]



Northern Virginia FM Association

Meetings: Fall, Winter and Spring at Virginia Power, On Rt 50 just west of the West Ox Road overpass and the Fair Oaks Mall.

Weekly Nets: NVFMA Talk Net, Mon, 8:00 PM, 146.79; NVFMA Swap Net, Tue, 8:00 PM, 146.91; NVFMA Clinic, 1st Wed of the month, 7:30 PM, 146.79; NVFMA Net, Wed, 8:00 PM, 146.79; ARES, Sun, 9 PM, 146.91.

Repeaters: 52.37/53.37, 146.19/146.79, 146.31/146.91, 222.50/224.10 Xlink, 222.74/224.34, 449.75/444.75, 447.025/442.025, 907.5/917.5, and 1272.1/1292.1.

Membership Info: Ann McWhirt KF4OSL, (703) 330-7429 or email to ammom@erols.com.

E-mail address: nvfma@juno.com.

Web Site: <http://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/Way/5337/>

Mailing Address: NVFMA, P.O. Box 486, McLean, VA 22101.

A General Membership meeting was held the evening of 16 October at the Virginia Power offices located on U.S. Rt. 50 just west of the Fair Oaks Shopping Mall. NVFMA's Technical Activities Group (TAG) leader, Sam, KM4OI, reported on the status of our system's repeaters and also discussed several new projects that are waiting in the wings. Phil, KF4AJZ, introduced Frank, W4EC, the ARRL Emergency Coordinator who gave an informative talk on the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES). Frank explained how the two complimentary emergency groups are linked together in the Commonwealth of Virginia and how they function when an emergency is declared by local, regional or state authorities. Thank you Frank for an informative presentation.

The next NVFMA general membership meeting will be held on January 15, 1998. Several Board Member seats are up for election so mark your calendars and please attend. If any NVFMA member is interested in serving on our Board of Directors, please contact Phil, KF4AJZ and ask him to place your name on the ballot. We need good people to serve and to help guide our Association into the twenty-first century.

Other general membership and Board Meetings currently planned for 1998 are listed below:

Feb 19, 1998	Board Meeting
Mar 19, 1998	Board Meeting
Apr 16, 1998	Board Meeting
May 21, 1998	Board Meeting
Jun 18, 1998	General Membership Meeting
Jul, 1998	TBD
Aug, 1998	TBD
Sep 17, 1998	Board Meeting
Oct 15, 1998	General Membership Meeting
Nov 19, 1998	Board Meeting
Dec 17, 1998	Board Meeting
Jan 21, 1999	General Membership Meeting

All of the above meetings are planned on being held at the Virginia Power Company offices just

west of the Fair Oaks Shopping Center on U.S. Rt. 50. All NVFMA members are invited and encouraged to attend the Board meetings as well as the general membership meetings.

That's all for this month. The NVFMA Board of Directors and Officers wish everyone HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!

Best Regards, Maury, W4HYB, Vice President



Potomac Valley Radio Club

Packet: K3MQH 145.63, K3NA 145.63, K4FJ 145.77, KE3Q 145.57 445.375, N3RR 145.51 441.325, N4OHE 145.710 440.925, N4SR 145.63, W3LPL 145.59 441.25, WR3L 145.61 440.95.

Web: www.pvrc.org & www.pagesz.net/~pvrc

Reflector: pvrc@pagesz.net

Information: Rich Boyd, KE3Q, (301) 464-8014, rboyd@capaccess.org

Greetings, Auto-Call readers. PVRC hasn't had a column in Auto-Call for a long time, and it's time we introduce ourselves. The Potomac Valley Radio Club, was founded in 1947, making it one of the older ham clubs in our area. Though we're a special interest club devoted to contesting, most of us belong to and support our local general interest club(s) as well. I'm a member of the Anne Arundel Radio Club (AARC), as well as another special interest club, the National Capital DX Association (NCDXA).

PVRC is a non-dues region-wide club reaching from just beyond Raleigh-Durham, NC, to Harrisburg, PA, and from the Delaware-Maryland ocean beaches to Morgantown, WV, with 270 active members in this region. This region is limited to a 350 miles diameter circle by the sponsors of on-air operating events, primarily the ARRL and CQ magazine. Most of our members are in the greater Washington area.

Our members enjoy on-air operating events, with a focus on the "big six", that is, the 'phone and Morse weekends of the CQ Worldwide DX Contests, ARRL November Sweepstakes, and the ARRL DX Contests. We also participate as a club in other HF and VHF+ events though our members often participate with their local club during Field Day. We work throughout the year to build efficient, effective stations and hone our operating skills. We believe our members are the most skilled operators in the world, with both phone and Morse. And, our members' stations set the standard as well. Some of our members have as many as 10 towers; some have three-element 80 meter rotatable yagis (!), 200-foot-tall towers, and the like, things that most hams only dream about! Others of us have more modest stations, a 60 foot (or less) tower and a couple dipoles. A significant contribution to our total aggregate score comes from the numerous members who use a 100 Watt transceiver and a simple multiband wire antenna. We are looking for more participation from this latter group.

Within PVRC you can meet the guys with the big stations and hear their stories about what using such a station is like. You can learn various operating secrets and learn how to do it yourself. You can learn how to build your own station and become an effective operator. You can join a crew of guys to operate one of the bigger stations all weekend long, just like in Field Day. There's a lot of fun, camaraderie, and fascinating learning.

We'd like to get to know you. We'd like you to be part of what we're doing. We hope you'll come to some of our upcoming meetings. You can telephone me for more information. Watch Auto-Call in the coming months and we'll tell you more about PVRC!

73, Rich Boyd, KE3Q, PVRC President 410-646-8014.

The following are regularly scheduled PVRC meetings. Please check to confirm the meeting date and place. The Central meeting normally meets on the second Monday at a VA or MD location. A Christmas party will replace the December meeting

on a date to be announced. Rich Boyd, KE3Q, 301-464-8014.

PVRC/NC meets on the first Thursday at 6 pm at Luna's Restaurant, 3227 Avent Ferry Rd, Raleigh, NC. Pete Soper, KS4XG, 919-362-4635.

The Tidewater Colony meets on the third Tuesday with the VA DXCC at the China Palace Restaurant corner of Newtown and Kempsville Roads in Norfolk, VA. Don Lynch, W4ZYT, 804-486-0728.

The Northwest meeting is the third Tuesday at 8:00 pm at Legends Restaurant in the Hampton Inn, Frederick, MD. Tyler Stewart, K3MM, 301-414-5444.

PVRC/BWI meets for breakfast every Wednesday at 7:30 am at Basil's Deli Port, Elkridge Landing Road, near BWI Airport. Howard Leake, W6AXX, 410-465-7008

73, Dick Wilder, K3DI, editor 410-757-6706
wilder@clark.net



Prince George's Wireless Association

Meetings: First working Tuesday of each month, 7:30 PM; American Red Cross bldg., 6206 Belcrest Rd, Hyattsville, MD 20782.

Club Station: K3CEZ

Mailing: 4109 Kennedy St., Hyattsville, MD 20781

Information: Frank Holton - WA3ZMW
(301) 927-1245

PGWA held it's regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 7, 1997. Frank, WA3ZMW, back from a recent illness, presided.

Announcements of upcoming Hamfests and incoming correspondence was read, Charles, KA3COT gave the treasurer's report.

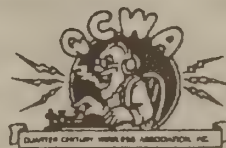
Muriel, Frank's daughter, had a new disk for our computer which she displaced showing electronic circuitry and component parts for troubleshooting.

We would like to thank the following participants in the (SET) test which was held on Saturday, October 4, 1997. Quite a few messages were received and transmitted from station K3CEZ located in the P.G. County RED CROSS building in Hyattsville, MD.

Hugh-KB3TB
Vikki-KA3PVS
Dave-N3DRL
John-N3KHK
Charlie-KA3COT
Frank-WA3ZMW
Jim-N3XKJ
Morris-K3INS
John-N3RQZ

Kenny, N3HLY, opened up the Radio Room around 0800 hooked up some of the radios and antennas but had to leave at 1:00 for another radio meeting in Laurel. HAPPY HOLIDAYS

73's from Ken Easton N3HLY



Quarter Century Wireless Assn. Chapter #91

Meetings: Neighbor's Restaurant, Cedar Lane and Park Street, Vienna, VA; third Saturdays; Noon. Business/Program Meetings: Odd-numbered months. (Come at 11:30 to chat; program begins at noon.) Informal/Ragchew Meetings: Even-numbered months.

Newsletter: Bi-monthly to all members.

Information: Dick Rucker (KM4ML), Secretary; 10426 Darby St., Fairfax, VA 22030-3603; 703-591-3279. Also on the VHF net.

VHF FM Net: Sunday 9 AM, 146.79MHz.

The Vic Clark Chapter, QCWA, held an

important "off-month" meeting in October. (We have business/program meetings in the odd-numbered months, and informal rag-chew meetings in the even numbered months.) In addition to the lots-of-fun ragchewing, we discussed several topics of importance: (a) our Annual Holiday Party; (b) increasing member participation; and (c) election of officers.

Annual Holiday Party

This Holiday Party is one that you WILL want to attend!! Santa really is taking care of us this year!

NEW LOCATION — We will have our party at Mama's Italian Restaurant on Saturday, December 6, beginning at 11:30 A.M. The location is convenient: 9715 Lee Highway, Fairfax—just west of Fairfax Circle—EASY to get to. Mama's has an excellent reputation and fine food.

LOW LOW PRICE — I'm a bit afraid to tell you the price of this fete: \$14. Yes, only fourteen dollars! When Mama's told me what they would charge us, I was dubious. So Dick, KM4ML, and I visited them and sampled what we would be getting for our money. Believe me, the food was very good, and Dick had to roll me out of there because I ate so much. Several of us have eaten there on many occasions and the food, service, location, and price are just about all one could ask for. Mama's has been there for a long time and has a very good reputation.

SURPRISES — Of course, that jolly elderly Ham, S4NTA, will be there with nice toys for you good little boys and girls. There will be other surprises too.

BE THERE — All QCWA members, SOWP members, and guests of members of those organizations are invited. If you are not a member and want more information, call any chapter officer listed in the masthead.

This really will be a very enjoyable event. Our previous gatherings have been much enjoyed. This

will be an excellent time to chat with old friends and meet "new old friends." The price and location are right. We hope you will be there to celebrate with us. Come. Eat. Enjoy.

We Have More for You

Each year our meetings seem to become more delightful. We have a good time together and we have enjoyable, entertaining, and educational programs.

BE THERE (Part Two) — Unfortunately, you QCWAers who don't attend the meetings don't know this. So we discussed what we should do to entice you to join us. We are making plans. We will prevail. It is useless to resist, You WILL enjoy. Stay tuned for more details. (And in the meantime, c'mon out and be with us at the holiday party!)

Election of Officers

By the time you read this, it already will have been written. Further, Chapter elections already will have been held. Congratulations to the new officers of Chapter 91! Also, many thanks to the officers who served during 1997. You all really have done a fine job. A lot got accomplished.

HEARTFELT THANKS — Seriously, thanks so much—to President Frank Haynes, W4NUA; Vice President Al Wheeler, WB4JJJ; Secretary Dick Rucker, KM4ML; Treasurer Al Cammarata, W3AWU; and Corresponding Secretary Jim Wilcox, W3WV. Also thanks to the WOHs (Wise Old Heads) who advised us—Jack Kelleher, W4ZC; and John Swafford, W4HU. We all affectionately thank Ethel Smith, K4LMB, who advised us until she became an SK earlier this year. Ethel, you were an exceptionally special gift to us.

Finally, I sadly report another SK from Chapter 91—Harry Kaklikian, W4ACN. Harry was a very accomplished man and contributed much to our chapter. See elsewhere in this issue for Harry's obituary. Thanks, Harry, for being with us, and 73.

ar 73 de Jim W3WV



Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: First and Third Friday of every month at 7:30 p.m. SVARC Club House 2921 Grace Street, Winchester, Virginia.

Repeater: 146.22 In/ 146.82 Out.

Net: Shenandoah Valley Emergency Net (SVEN) 7:15 daily on 146.22/146.82 Repeater.

Mailing: P.O. Box 139 Winchester, 22604.

President: Fred Wetzel (W4KRT).

Info: Irvin Barb, W4DHU, 955-1745.

Internet home page: <http://www.vvalley.com/svarc>.

Greetings once again from the Shenandoah Valley. The club has certainly kept busy during the month of October.

At the October 1 meeting of the SVARC, officers for the 1998 were elected. Mike Collins (W4ACC) of the elections committee was responsible for overseeing the election process. After all was said and done, the following people were elected to serve in 1998:

President: Wayne Koehler (KE4PMS)

Vice President: Sam Long (W4WSE)

Secretary: Don Mort (KU4KN)

Treasurer: Tom Sullivan (KD4WSM)

Trustee: John Kanode (N4MM)

Committee assignments will be made at one of the upcoming meetings, so be sure to attend. The club needs your support.

On October 11th & 12th, club members provided communications support for the Multiple Sclerosis 150 Mile bicycle race. Proceeds from the event benefited Multiple Sclerosis research efforts. The race began in Middletown, VA, which is a few miles south of Winchester and southward through the valley, finally ending in Orkney Springs. SVARC members who participated were: Romie Nickles (KF4NDM), Danielle Brooks (KC4SUV),

Irv (W4DHU) & Jane (KD4IET) Barb, Gary Lyon (KE4FFH), Rick Choy (N3HXT), Don Mort (KU4KN), Tom (KF4TNX), Stan Monish (KD4HRJ), Fred Wetzel (W4KRT), Ronnie (KF4NDL) & Allyson (KF4NQR) Owens, and Mike Collins (W4ACC). Thanks to all for taking the time to help out.

This year the SVARC, in conjunction with several local Boy Scout troops, participated in the Jamboree on the Air, which was held on October 18. Participants included, Fred Wetzel (W4KRT), Ed Nail (KE4SRB), Dave Watterson (KE4SQX), Tom Sullivan (KD4WSM), Tom (KF4TNX), Stan Monish (KD4HRJ), Bo Tanner (KE4SQZ), Adam Lassiter (KB8UUE), Ronnie Ownes (KF4NDL), Sam Long (W4WSE), Don Mort (KU4KN) and event coordinator, Wayne Koehler (KE4PMS). The event was held on property near the Shenandoah River in Clarke County. Although the weather was a bit on the wet side, the boys had a wonderful time.

Since there are a few events coming up in, members should pay close attention to the Shenandoah Valley Emergency Net. Any announcements regarding public service events or changes in class schedules will be announced at that time. Just a reminder that Novice and Tech upgrade classes are being held Thursday nights through December. For more information, contact Fred Wetzel (W4KRT) at 678-0394. Also, stay tuned for more information on the club Christmas Party. Jane Barb (KD4IET) will be bringing us up to date at meetings in the near future. Everyone have a safe and enjoyable Holiday Season.

73 & Happy Holidays,
Laura Stewart/KE4QJT



Reminder - all submissions for

AUTO FALL

are due no later than
the 1st of the month prior to the
month of publication!!



St. Mary's County Amateur Radio Association

Meetings: Fourth Thursday of each month, 7:30 PM, at the Lexington Park library.

Repeater: K3HKI (146.64 MHz)

Packet: K3HKI.#SOMD.MD.USA.NOAM (145.75/145.01/223.58/440.975 MHz)

Lunch Bunch: Every Friday, listen on the 146.64 MHz repeater between 10-11:30 AM to find out where to meet.

Nets: - "St. Mary's ARES", every Monday at 8:00 PM on 146.64 MHz - "Bottom County", every Wednesday at 8:00 PM on 146.64 MHz.

Address: SMCARA, P.O. Box 743, California, Maryland 20619.

Newsletters: Complimentary copies are available at local Radio Shack stores.

The Saint Mary's County Amateur Radio Association held elections for the 1998 officers recently. The new officers include Pete WA3UMY; President, Tom W4OKW, Vice President; Mark KE3OX, Secretary; and Garner WA3ELE, Treasurer. We wish them continued club success.

We have completed an aggressive campaign of Public Service Events in 1997. Unfortunately limited participation by club members has taken its toll on our ability to support this many events. We intend to take a hard look at the number of events we will support in 1998. We encourage members to support their club and represent us in the community.

SMCARA has scheduled a very special event for the December 4 meeting. In lieu of our regular combined November/December meeting we will sponsor a Swap Fest. We encourage all amateurs to bring in their stuff and see what you can take home with you. This will be our version of a Saint Mary's County Hamfest. Hope to see you there. Bring Money.

73, Mark, KE3OX



Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club

Meetings: 8:00 P.M. - Third Monday of the month except July and August at Sterling Community Center Annex, Church Rd. (Rt. 625) near Route 28, Sterling, VA.

Mailing: Call Box 599, Sterling, VA 20167.

Information: Bill Lorentz, KS4II, 703-444-6341 or via email KS4II@AOL.com.

17 members attended the October SPARC meeting at the Sterling Community Center Annex. This was our first business meeting after our Summer break and we spent a great deal of time discussing old business to determine if we wanted to table it or carry it forward. We decided to move forward with having a project night, purchasing club shirts or jackets, becoming a Special Service club and incorporating the club. Dick, W2YE, expressed the desire to generate more club entries in contests. This is another good way to keep the club moving forward and getting our name in print. I look forward to this club year and hope we can continue to increase our membership and provide a range of programs that will interest all of our members. Don't forget the DARG Holiday Party on December 13th and I wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season and a terrific new year.

73, Bill, KS4II

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The Middle Atlantic FM and Repeater Council, Inc.

Meetings: Coordinating Committee (CC) normally meets the last Monday of each month, 19:30, in the OEP conference room of the Prince George's County Emergency Operations Center off Central Avenue. Talk-in on 147.18.

Address: P.O. Box 1022, Savage, Md. 20763-1022 for all correspondence.

Web Page: [HTTP://WWW.T-MARC.ORG](http://WWW.T-MARC.ORG).

Information: President - Owen Wormser K6LEW (703)684-7682 CC Chairman - Bill Conaway W8HNT, Pager (703)741-4251. Ombudsman - Jim Erickson K3LFO (410)549-1041, K3LFO@APEXGRP.COM.

Although this isn't really T-MARC business, it appears there is an effort under way to move all APRS packet operations to a nation-wide frequency of 144.390 MHz. Here in this area, this is compatible with the current 2 Meter band plan, which was revised earlier this year. Spectrum planning and digital groups around the country, including D.M.A.R.C., our local digital group, are looking into this idea. I understand that Canadian hams have already adopted 144.390 for their APRS network.

N3ST's 444.65 repeater has been re-coordinated from its old site in D.C. to a new location near Taylorsville, in Carroll County, Md.

Most of the replexers have been re-coordinated to their new frequencies. CATS in Baltimore on 144.95 and SERA near Fredericksburg on 144.91 move to 147.495. From 144.99, KK3L on Cacapon Mtn. moves to 147.525 and N4LZJ near Dale City moves to 147.585. Metrovision in Alexandria moves from 144.97 to 147.465, and WB4APR near Annapolis moves from 144.93 to 147.435. All of these moves should be completed by the end of the year, as digital operations will begin using the

144.91 - .99 frequencies next year.

Next month we'll have a report on the results of the November 2nd Annual Meeting, as this is being written a couple of days beforehand.

Finally, we note with sadness the passing of Dwight Weller, KB3LA, who died recently of cancer. Dwight had a repeater on 146.895 at his home in Lutherville. He was well regarded by members of the broadcast industry around Baltimore, as well as at the F.C.C. where he once worked.

73, Gary, W3DTN, T-MARC PIO



Vienna Wireless Society

Meeting: 7:30pm second and fourth Fridays of the month at the Vienna Community Center.

Nets: Pow-Wow nightly at 9 pm. on 28.444 MHz. Slow speed code, nightly 8:30 pm on 28.390 MHz. Vienna Emergency Net, Wednesday 7:30 pm 146.085/146.685

Repeater: K4HTA 146.685(-), 448.375(-).

Information: Kerry Kingham WA4BQM, president, (703) 691-2719; Program: Mike Steussey AE4R, (703) 281-0010.

Mailing: P.O. Box 418 Vienna, VA. 22183

September 12: After our regular business meeting, the program featured Mike Callahan, NW3V, president of Arlington Amateur Radio Club, discussing what he called KISS and Telnet, Amateur packet radio, an interesting primer on packet radio operations, including historical aspects and (would you believe?) non-radio packet, i.e., a modem, and a packet demonstration using Mike Toia's, K3MT, plumbers nightmare dual quad antenna.

September 26: no meeting

October 10: Gary Hendrickson, W3DTN, of T-MARC presented an informative program on the reasons for coordination of repeater pair frequencies in the Washington metro area and nationwide, factors used in determining frequency allocation and some of methods for reducing interference with other repeaters. After his remarks, he fielded questions on the topic from the members. October 24: We had an interesting presentation on the history of telegraph keys given by John Kelly, N3GVF. There were several pointers on how to identify keys and what they were used for.

November 14: Annual Elections for the VWS Board of Directors.

Due to the holiday season, VWS will have only one meeting in December. A holiday party will be featured for the December 12 meeting.

The Training Committee announced they expect at least five of the present class of eleven to be ready for their license exam by the end of the next class. The possibility of using community TV for training will be explored with production of training films to be done by VWS members.

73, Bill Kamm, KC4VXH



Woodbridge Wireless, Inc.

Meetings: Second Tuesday of each month at Springwoods and Chaucer, Lake Ridge, VA.
Net: Monday nights at 2000 on 147.24 with 224.78 link.

Repeaters: WB4FQR 147.24 (+), WB4GJZ 224.78 (-), WB4FQR 444.90 (+), N4LJZ 144.99 simplex PL-100 HZ

Mailing: PO Box 112, Woodbridge, VA 22194

Information: Jim Stearns, KC4ZHQ (703) 670-3480.

Change Information: Bob Graham, K4RG, 703/878-0697

Web Page: <http://www.pwcweb.com/wwi/>

CONGRATS TO THE NEW WWI OFFICERS

The following 1997-98 WWI officers were elected at the 14 October meeting.

President - K4RG, Bob Graham
Vice President - WD4AIR, Jim Duffer
Secretary - W4DC, Denis Catalano
Treasurer - KT4AD, John Grout
Activities - KR4KF, Bob Tyson
Trustee - WB4FQR, Phil Poole
Board Members - WA0DYJ, Stu Mitchell
- W4DAV, Dave Henry
- KC4ZHQ, Jim Stearns

Please give them your full support to make 1998 another successful year.

JOTA 97 - A GREAT SUCCESS

The Woodbridge Wireless sponsored it's sixth JOTA, Jamboree On The Air, October 18th. Four HF stations and two VHF stations were set up in an active cow pasture, under less than ideal conditions. The WWI Emergency Communications Van (aka "The Bus") housed one HF station and one VHF station. Just outside the bus, KQ4KK had a GPS/PACKET Demo station. The other three HF stations were set up in shelters around the bus. A video about ham radio played continuously throughout the day. Over 500 Prince William County scouts participated in JOTA from this location. The Boy Scouts were especially primed for getting involved in ham radio. About 15 scouts received a partial on their Radio Merit badge, and two scouts are now studying for their exams. No telling how many seeds were planted for many other young scouts. One scout told his dad, he decided not to buy a go-cart, but decided to get into ham radio instead. Thanks to Denis W4DC, Bob K4RG, Cliff W4CE, Jim WD4AIR, Bob K8MLM, Scott KT4ER, Kent KQ4KK, Mike KA4RRU, Don W4HJL, Mark K4SO, Dave W4DAV, Don N4MZV, Paul N3DAN, and Irv KC4BJE, plus all the hams that patiently worked the scouts on the other end. Thanks for helping our youth, and making this event successful.

WWI HOME PAGE

If you haven't checked out the WWI Homepage lately (<http://www.pwcweb.com/wwi/>) you certainly are missing something. Thanks to Rob, AJ0C, who continues to maintain it from Colorado. It has recently been updated to include 1997 Field Day photos, all the back Wirelooses from January 1995 to October 1996, name badge sample/order info, and much much more. Shown below is the table of contents and brief description:

- * About WWI - a brief description and history of WWI
- * Amateur Radio Classes and Exams
- * Club Meetings - includes a map
- * Club Photos - 16 photos from many of the club activities
- * Club Photos @ N4LJZ's Page - 18 more WWI very interesting photos
- * FIELD DAY - WWI Style - WWI field day results from 1977 to 1997
- * Members on the Web - links to member's homepages
- * Notes & Local Activities - Monday nite net and meeting info
- * OFFICERS & COMMITTEES - with E-mail links
- * VHF/UHF Repeaters - includes freqs, activity & guidelines
- * WIRELOOSE Directory - WWI Newsletter on line from 1/95-present
- * Links to the Internet - Really cool links to callsign servers, solar activity, DX packet cluster, WWI callsign badge info, Plus other neat stuff. Check it out!

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

Woodbridge Wireless would like to take this opportunity to thank all members who have contributed their time, money, or equipment to the club in 1997. With the risk of missing someone, here goes:

- Thanks go out to the 18 club members who donated \$250 to purchase a 40 Meter monoband

beam for field day; to Jim KC4ZHQ for starting it out with \$50; and to Ed K5OF and Mike KA4RRU for driving up to Maryland to pick it up.

- Thanks to Jim, KA4CKI, for donating and installing solar panels on the emergency bus to keep the batteries fully charged.
- Thanks to Stu, WA0DYJ, for donating so many things to WWI, we wouldn't have enough room on this page. His most recent donation is an HD73 rotor.
- Thanks to Bob, K8MLM who volunteered to be the librarian of the club's QSTs (January 1973 - present).
- Thanks to Jim, KE4TKU for keeping the WIRELOOSE going.
- Thanks to Jack, W4AD, and Jim, KA4CKI for keeping the repeaters going.
- Thanks to Jerry, N1TXI, for donating a trailer to the club.
- Thanks to Stu WA0DYJ, Ed K5OF, Mike KA4RRU, Denis W4DC, Steve N4DXS, Bob K4RG, Jim WD4AIR, and Bob K8MLM for participating in the work party to rebuild the trailer and install the beacon on the bus.
- Thanks to Brad, KS4AR for running the crew races on the river.
- Thanks to OP, KF4TE for donating some VHF antennas to the club.
- Thanks to Bob, KR4KF for running the club activities.
- Thanks to Mike, KA4RRU, for donating a HD 73 rotor box & parts.
- Thanks to Gerald, KQ4CR, for donating two computers.
- Thanks to John, KT4AD, for keeping the books balanced.
- Thanks to all who donated equipment sold at the hamfests in 1997
- Thanks to all who make Woodbridge Wireless a club great!



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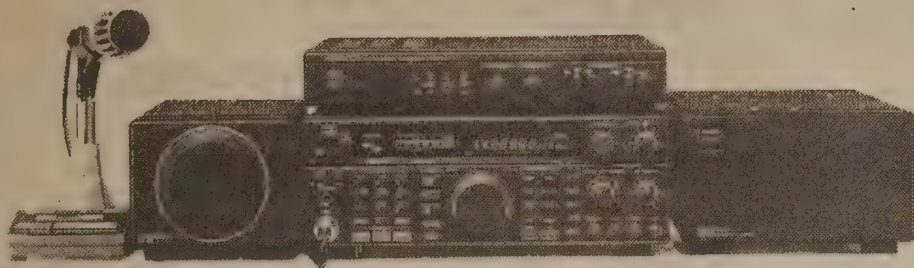
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FOR SALE: Heathkit HW-9, partially assembled, WARC bands, many extras, \$200.00. GRC-109 Receivers, have two, work fine, \$30.00 each. AEA 10 meter DX Handy, \$75.00. **WANTED:** R-392. Mike, N4MWP, Fairfax VA, (703) 591-7717. [12/97]

FOR SALE: Mint OMNI-VI Model 563 + MOD 3 Upgrade and Model 961 Power Supply. All filters included (2.4KHz, 1.8KHz, 500 Hz, 250 Hz, plus Optional CW 500 Hz IF filter for N- 1 seelction). Non-smoker. Original boxes. \$1650.00. Certified check. You pay shipping. FRED. N4FG@worldnet.att.net or (703) 503-9844. [12/97]

FOR SALE: Collins KWM-2 with 516F-2 power supply/speaker, Shure 444 desk mic, set of replacement tubes, manual. Modifications installed: solid state power supply, DWI dual-fan kit, 4 pin mic jack for 444 Shure, SO-239 antenna connector, CCITK-1 digital frequency readout, as a package \$600.00. Kenwood TH-205AT hand held 2 meter transceiver, w/speaker mic, BC-8 battery charger, PG-3E cigarette lighter cord, extra battery, manual, \$175.00. (301) 460-4677, Bill W3WON.

FOR SALE: New 20 meter 4 element Force 12 EF-420D beam rated for 100 MPH wind—\$375. Used Hy-Gain DB-1015 3 element beam for 10 & 15 meters—\$150. W9LT (304) 229-7711 Bunker Hill, WV. [01/98]

FOR SALE: 10 yr old 2220 sq ft tri-level, 620 sq ft finished carpeted basement office and ham shack, attached 880 sq ft finished garage on 5 acres with stream at bottom of hill. 1st class contest-DX 2 station installation. 110' 45G TH-7 plus 2 el 40 at 120', 73' 25G TH-7, etc. Shenandoah Valley at I-81 and WV/VA line. Marc commuter train 15 min., Dulles 65 min., Frederick 50 min. \$185,000. W9LT (304) 229-7711 Bunker Hill, WV or Wendy Baruch (Prudential realtor) 1-800-243-8358. [01/98]

GIVE AWAY! 32' tower with 3 element tri-band beam. You take down. Will help. Henry Wade, (301) 460-3977, Rockville, MD. [01/98]

ESTATE SALE: Clegg 2 meter transceiver, 25 watt, model FM 28 with CES model 800 ML scanner, two 2 meter antennas, both 5/8, one mag

mount, one rail mount, TPL Communications 2 meter amp., 4 watts in-45 watts out, Kepco 12V-10A P.S., model PRM 12-10, Superior Electric Co. Powerstat. Sell as a package for \$300.00. Bob Henkel, NA3R, 301-649-4494. [12/97]

FOR SALE: Repeaters, UHF (440-470) and VHF/2M (144-170) General Electric Mastr II, Exec II, & Mastr Pro - Antennas, Duplexers, Hardline & Connectors Call Gary N8BOR at (703) 590-1906.

[04/98]

FOR SALE: Mint TS50 with Kenwood Dynamic Handheld Microphone, IF-232C and IF-10D interface units Plus S02 TCXO. Original boxes. \$800. Certified check. You pay shipping. Fred.N4FG@worldnet.att.net or (703) 503-9844.

[12/97]

WANTED: Early pre-1980 microcomputers for museum collection. Also early microcomputer sales literature and magazines. KK4WW (540) 231-6478 or (540) 231-2321. [10/98]



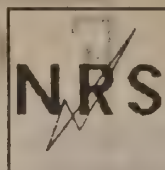
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[SWP]

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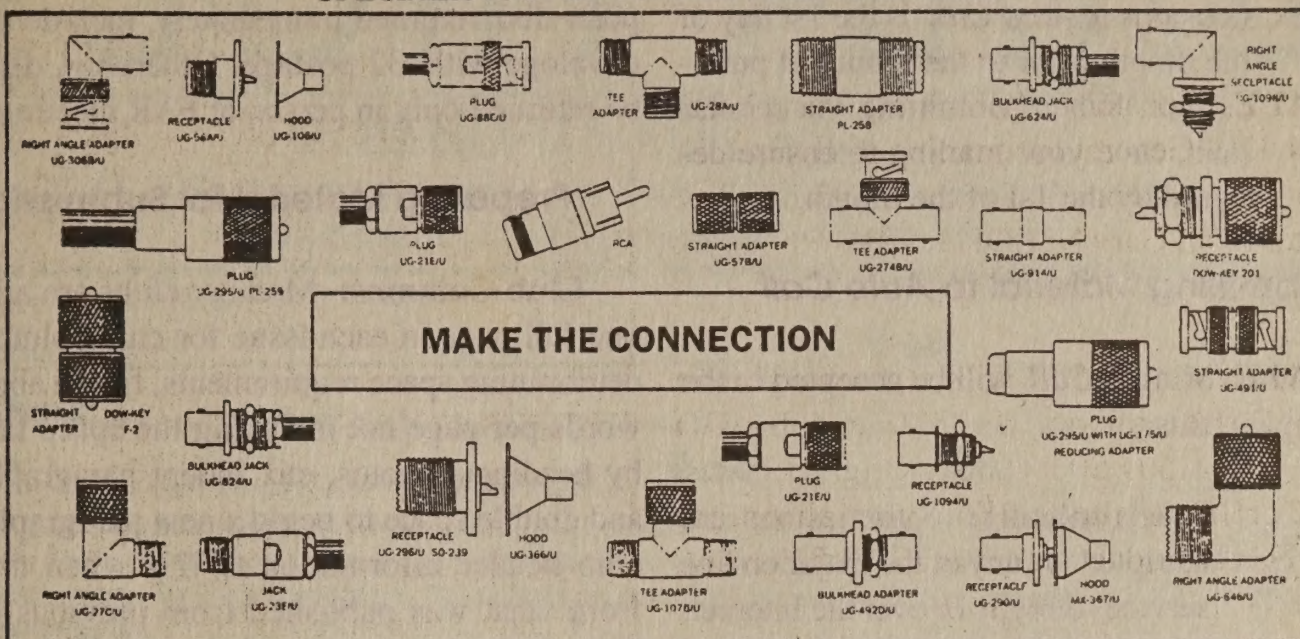
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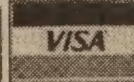
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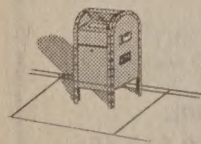
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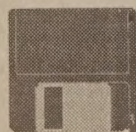
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Computer Disk: Submissions are accepted on 3.5" or 5.25" computer disk, in either Macintosh or MS-DOS format, using Word, WordPerfect, or standard ASCII text files. Write your name, telephone number, and club name on the disk. Submit graphic files (club logos, etc) in an EPS or TIFF format. Please verify the readability of your com-

puter files before sending. If you want your computer disk returned immediately, include a SASE envelope with .32 postage. Otherwise, disks will be returned only in person at FAR meetings.

Preparing Material for Submission

Club Columns: Member clubs are allocated one full page in each issue for club columns. In determining space requirements, figure about 700 words per page not including the space taken up by headings, photos, etc. Indent paragraphs .25" and double space to begin a new paragraph. Send club header information ONLY when different from what was published from previous month. The editor reserves the right to edit any submitted material for space, content and/or applicability.

Hamfests/Events: Member clubs are allocated one full page per year to promote one club sponsored hamfest, convention, or special event. Submit clean black & white camera ready copy only by mail. Master copy should be in black ink on white paper and should be in proper page ratio, (Copy space is 7" wide by 9" high). Copy can be reduced or enlarged as necessary. Electronic submissions of Hamfest ads will not be accepted.

Photographs: The editor will select the best photograph submitted for the cover each month. Photographs should depict club members, club stations, or amateur radio related events that are current and noteworthy. Clubs may also submit photographs for inclusion with their club column. Photographs will be used in columns when space permits. Either B&W or color photos can be used. For each photograph submitted, write your name, phone number, and club name, along with a description of the photograph on a piece of paper, and tape it on the back of the photograph. Do not write on the back of your photo. If you want your photos returned immediately, include a SASE envelope with sufficient postage. Otherwise, photos will be returned only in person at FAR meetings.



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Area Club Meetings - December 1997

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
	1 DOSARC	2 Antietam PGWA	3 BARC Montgomery	4 Anne Arundel	5 Mobileers Shenandoah	6 Green Mtn.
7 Metro Comm	8 Carroll Co.	9 Leisure Frederick Woodbridge	10 FAR - MD Exp Post	11 AMRAD MADRAS Mid-Atlantic Mt. Vernon HEMARC	12 VOA Vienna So. Maryland Alexandria	13 North Point
14	15 OVHA Sterling Park	16 Antietam Arlington	17 BARC Montgomery Goddard	18 Anne Arundel	19 Shenandoah	20 Capital City QCWA 91
21	22	23 Columbia	24 Exp Post Moose	25 MADRAS St. Mary's	26 Central MD Vienna	27
28 Adventist	29 Green Mtn. T-MARC	30	31 Carroll Co.			



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